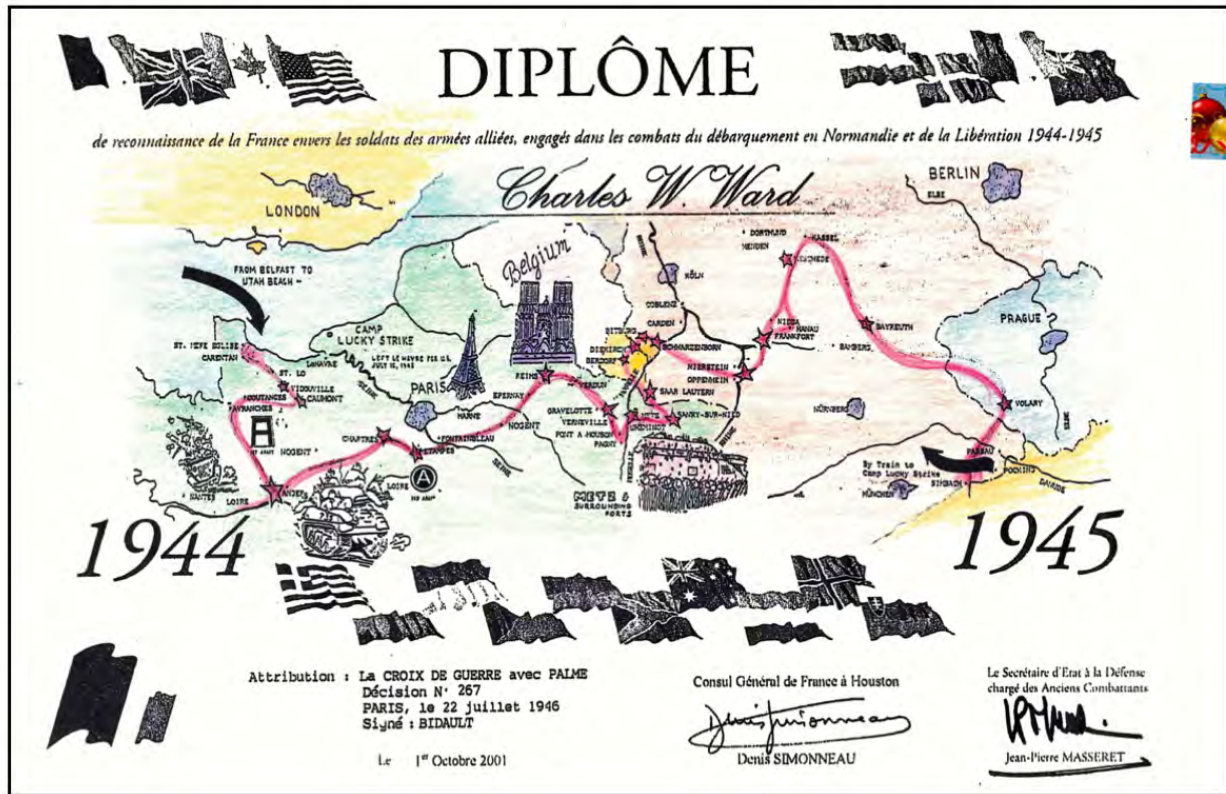


CHARLES W. WARD

Captain, Infantry, United States Army, 1943-1945



DECORATED INFANTRY COMMANDER

Utah Beach • Battle of the Bulge • Luxembourg • Germany • Czechoslovakia
Chartres • Reims • Vernerville • Metz • Sanry-sur-Nied • Saar Lautern • Volary
Silver Star, Bronze Star Valor, French Croix Guerre avec Palme and Purple Heart

ACCLAIMED OKLAHOMA ARCHITECT AND ARTIST

Governor's Arts Award • OU Regents Alumni Award • Tulsa Foundation for Architecture

ACTIVE TULSA CITIZEN

Will Rogers Rotary Club • Southminster Presbyterian Church • Tulsa United Way • and more

NORMANDY

“All of it I knew ... Much of it I saw ... Most of it I was ...
And even now a part of it is with me still”.

Introduction to “The Boys of Summer”

Charles Ward’s recollections of his experiences in the Normandy Invasion and the Summer of 1944

CHARLES W. WARD
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Charles W. Ward



NOMINATION

OK MILITARY HALL OF FAME NOMINATION FORM

OKLAHOMA MILITARY HERITAGE FOUNDATION

P O BOX 30658, EDMOND, OK 73003

Date: **May 15, 2018**

Highest rank: **Captain** Full name of nominee: **Charles William Ward**

Is nominee still living or deceased? **Living**

Date and place of birth: **September 11, 1924, Natrona County, Wyoming**

Branch of Service: **Infantry, United States Army**

Current Address: **Inverness Village, 3800 West 71st Street, Tulsa, OK 74132**

Phone number: **(918) 430-5751 (granddaughter Elizabeth Carroll)**

E-mail: **ecarroll@samsonco.com (granddaughter Elizabeth Carroll)**

Connection to Oklahoma: **Lifelong Resident**

If selected, could nominee travel to accept award? **Possibly**

Acceptor's relationship or affiliation to nominee: **Friends**

Name of nominators:

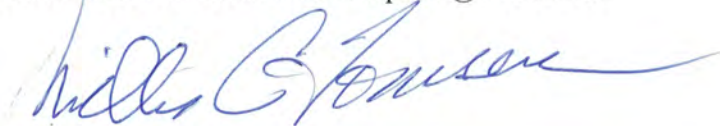


Michael Lapolla

Ambassador, Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame

2819 South Cincinnati Avenue, Tulsa, OK, 74114

Phone: 918-742-3503 Email: lapolla@swbell.net



Willis Tomsen

LTC (Retired) United States Army

Inverness Village, 3800 West 71st Street, Apt. 3114, Tulsa, OK 74132

Phone: 918-691-5454 Email: tinytomsen@gmail.com

CHARLES W. WARD
SERVICE SEPARATION RECORD

SEPARATION		ARMY QUALIFICATION			RECORD				
LAST NAME—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE INITIAL WARD, CHARLES, W.		ARMY SERIAL NO. O 507 839	GRADE 1-Lt	DATE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE 1 Feb 43	SEX M	DATE OF BIRTH 11 Sep 24			
PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR MAILING PURPOSES (Street and No.—City—County—State) 2547 East Seminole Ave Tulsa Tular Co. Oklahoma									
CIVILIAN EDUCATION									
HIGHEST GRADE COMPLETED 13	LAST YEAR OF ATTENDANCE 1943	HIGHEST DEGREE RECEIVED ---	MAJOR COURSE OF STUDY Engineering	NAME AND ADDRESS OF LAST SCHOOL ATTENDED Oklahoma University Norman, Okla.					
OTHER TRAINING OR SCHOOLING									
COURSE	NO. HRS.	COURSE	NO. HRS.	COURSE	NO. HRS.	COURSE			
---		---		---		---			
SERVICE EDUCATION									
SERVICE SCHOOL Ft Benning, Ga	COURSE Officer's Basic Cse	WKS. OR HRS. 13	RATING Cmpl	INSTITUTION WHERE ENROLLED ---	ARMY SPECIALIZED TRAINING PROGRAM CURRICULUM AND TERM (COURSE OF TRAINING PURSUED) ---	NO. OF WEEKS ---			
				GRADUATED YES NO					
CIVILIAN OCCUPATIONS									
MAIN OCCUPATION (Title) STUDENT			SECONDARY OCCUPATION (Title) REPORTER						
JOB SUMMARY ---			JOB SUMMARY Reporter. Worked in composing on weekly newspaper. School paper.						
NO. OF YEARS	LAST DATE OF EMPLOYMENT	NAME AND ADDRESS OF EMPLOYER		NO. OF YEARS	LAST DATE OF EMPLOYMENT	NAME AND ADDRESS OF EMPLOYER			
---	---	---		4	1942	Castle Heights M.A. Lebanon, Tenn.			
MILITARY SPECIALTIES									
ASSIGNMENTS									
YEARS	MONTHS	GRADE	PRINCIPAL DUTY	ARMY CODE NO.	YEARS	MONTHS	GRADE	PRINCIPAL DUTY	ARMY CODE NO.
2	9	1-Lt	Infantry Unit Commander	1542					
SUMMARY OF MILITARY OCCUPATION AND CIVILIAN CONVERSIONS (Shown by title)									
INFANTRY UNIT COMMANDER: Commanded an infantry mortar platoon and was responsible for its administration, training, and tactical employment in combat. Estimated situations, formulated decisions, and maintained communications. Directed and supervised the security measures of the unit.									
SUMMARY OF MILITARY OCCUPATION AND CIVILIAN CONVERSIONS (Shown by title)									
STATE OF OKLAHOMA, COUNTY OF CLEVELAND FILED FOR RECORD 1-21-1946 at Book 11 Page 161 VIRGIL YOUNG, Clerk By <i>[Signature]</i> Deputy									
* THIS INFORMATION BASED ON SOLDIER'S STATEMENT. (Indicate by * any items not supported by military records)									
DATE OF SEPARATION 24 Dec 1945	SIGNATURE OF SOLDIER <i>Charles W. Ward</i>			SIGNATURE OF SEPARATION CLASSIFICATION OFFICER <i>G. N. Miles</i> G. N. MILES, Captain, A.C.					
WD AGO FORM 100 15 JUL 1944	100	5	Camp Atterbury, Ind			U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE			

This is a copy of the WD (War Department) Form 100 separation document. It is the only separation document available. These forms did not include awards and decorations. His original military records were destroyed in a 1973 fire.

CHARLES W. WARD
NOMINATION STATEMENT

Mr. Charles Ward is a distinguished soldier, acclaimed Oklahoma architect and artist, committed civic leader and everyone's friend. He is a 93-year-old veteran of World War II who has used his leadership skills, artistic talent and positive personality to make our world, our country and Oklahoma a better place to live, work and play. He has received many significant awards and acclamations – but never as many as he deserves.

Induction into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame will be a fitting capstone for this remarkable Oklahoman.

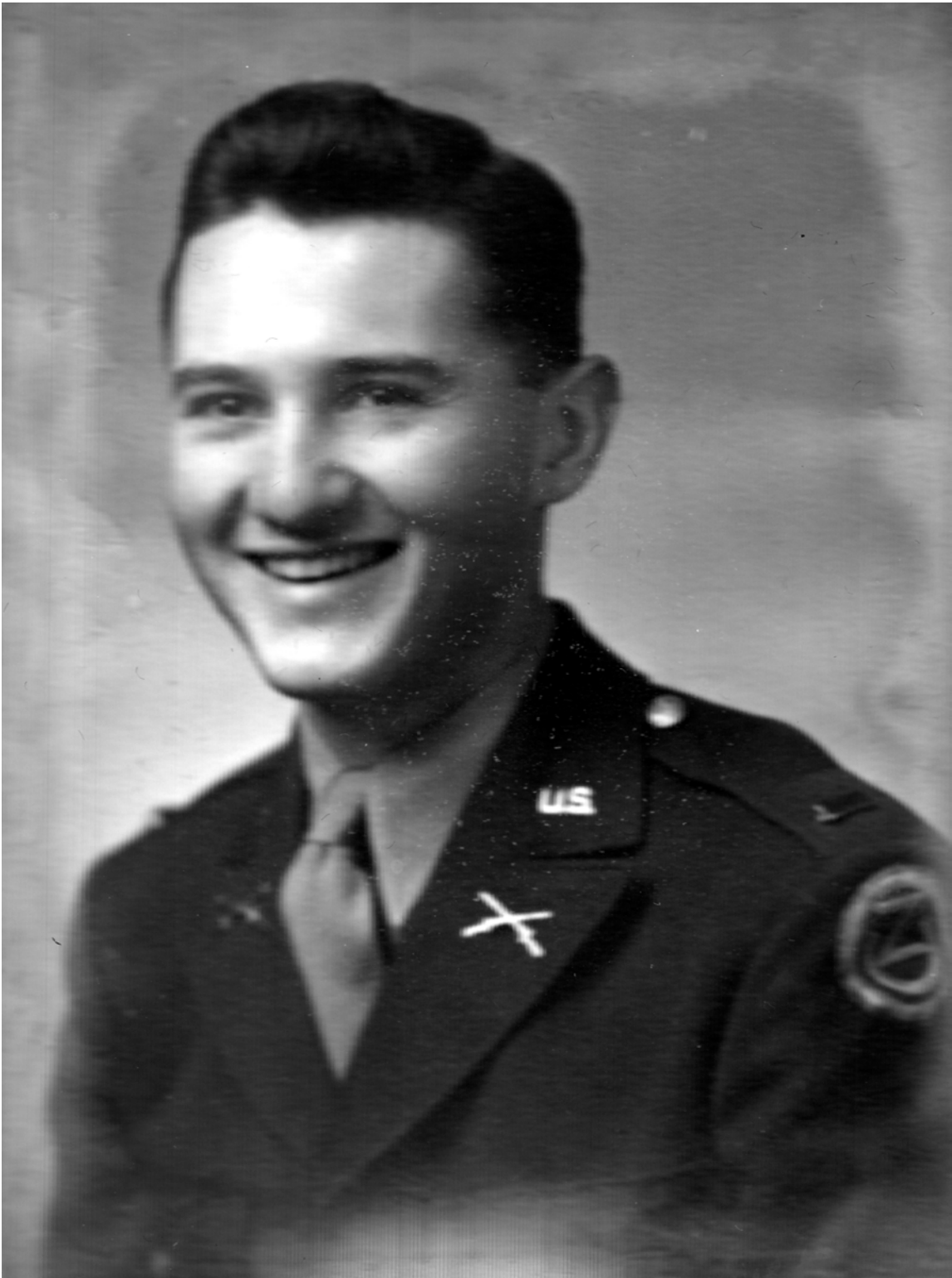
EARLY LIFE: Mr. Ward was born in rural Wyoming, and schooled in Turner Valley, Alberta, Canada, Tulsa and Columbia (S.A). On December 7, 1941, he was a 17-year-old student at a military boarding school in Tennessee. His father - a builder of oil fields who traveled the world - and his mother were in South America. They would be forced to remain there for the duration of the war. Completing military school, Mr. Ward briefly attended the University of Oklahoma until turning 18. Then, in February 1943, he enlisted in the US Army and entered Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, GA.

MILITARY: Charles Ward was an 18-year-old Army Infantry Lieutenant, a 19-year-old platoon leader at Utah Beach, and a 20-year-old, highly decorated, company commander at the Battle of the Bulge. He was then redeployed to the United States to begin training for an invasion of Japan when the war ended. He was not yet 21 years old.

As a 19-year-old Infantry lieutenant, he joined the 2nd Infantry Regiment, 5th Infantry Division in Northern Ireland as a platoon leader in December 1943. His platoon lands at Utah Beach and joins the conflict in Normandy. The 5th Division is then reassigned to Third US Army, commanded by General George Patton. The Third Army, and LT Ward's unit, fought through Metz, the Battle of the Bulge, and crosses the Rhine.

General Patton personally awarded LT Ward his Silver Star. LT Ward then received a battlefield promotion to Captain and assumed command of E and H companies of the Second Regiment, Fifth Infantry Division. By May 1945, Ward's company advanced into Czechoslovakia as the war in Europe ended. In July 1945, the 5th Division returned to the US in preparation for the invasion of Japan.

OKLAHOMA: Anticipating participating in the Japan invasion, CPT Ward and Shirley Ann Hawthorn married July 28, 1945. Japan surrendered two weeks later and Ward was discharged on December 24, 1945. He returned to the University of Oklahoma to complete his degree in architecture, raise a family and become one of Oklahoma's most cherished and productive citizens. He has received the highest honors from the Regents of the University of Oklahoma, the Governor's Arts Council, Will Rogers (Tulsa) Rotary Club, Tulsa Chamber of Commerce, and the Tulsa Foundation for Architecture.



Second Lieutenant, Charles W. Ward, 1943

CHARLES W. WARD
ENDORSEMENT

David Boren, President, University of Oklahoma



The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA[®]
Office of the President

May 4, 2018

Selection Committee
Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame
P.O. Box 30658
Edmond, OK 73003

Dear Members of the Selection Committee:

It is my distinct privilege to endorse Charles W. Ward for acceptance into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame. In addition to his exceptional service in the armed forces during World War II, Charles has been a special member of the University of Oklahoma community for many decades.

Members of the OU family have come to know Charles not only as a war hero but also as an enthusiastic fellow Sooner. He loves our university deeply. I am reminded of this fact on a daily basis, as three of his intricate pencil drawings of historic OU buildings hang in my office. In thousands of careful, exacting strokes, Charles traces the lines of OU history through depictions of iconic structures such as Bizzell Memorial Library. They are symbols of the dedication he has shown to OU throughout his entire life.

Charles, an accomplished architect and graduate of our widely recognized College of Architecture, has always answered the call to serve OU just as he did our nation. He helped create one of our official calendars, promoted the Centennial Arch Campaign, contributes to scholarship for students, and even releases a "Fearsome Football Forecast" for friends and family each year. For his longstanding commitment to the OU family, I was pleased to recognize Charles with a Regents' Alumni Award in 2007.

Charles' military career alone is worthy of profound admiration. How fortunate we are that he has chosen to continue his great service to our state in the decades afterward. Charles is truly outstanding because service is essential to his character. He has earned a place in the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

David L. Boren
President

660 Parrington Oval, Evans Hall, Suite 110, Norman, Oklahoma 73019
PHONE: 405-325-3916 FAX: 405-325-7605
WEBSITE: www.ou.edu



CHARLES W. WARD
ENDORSEMENT

David Boren, President, University of Oklahoma



President David Boren is an admirer of Charles Ward’s talents, generosity, and loyalty to the University of Oklahoma. He proudly displays Mr. Ward’s drawings in his office. President Boren said “ ... as three of his intricate pencil drawings of historic OU buildings hang in my office” ... they are symbols of the dedication he has shown to OU throughout his entire life”. Additional contributions and associations with the University of Oklahoma are found later in this nomination package.

CHARLES W. WARD
ENDORSEMENT

Michael Linscott, President, Will Rogers (Tulsa) Rotary Club



May 14, 2018

Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame
P.O. Box 30658
Edmond, OK 73003

Re: Recommendation of Charles W. Ward

Dear Members of the Selection Committee:

With great admiration and respect, it is my pleasure to recommend Charles W. Ward for acceptance into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame. It is hard to imagine someone more deserving of such an honor, given his service in the military as well as his service outside of the military. As President of Will Rogers Rotary Club in Tulsa, I have been the recipient of his profound service and advice in conducting my duties and encourage you to bestow this honor on Charles.

Charles is a supreme example of a Rotarian because he truly lives the Rotary standard of "Service above self." Charles has been a Rotarian since 1966. He served as President from 1981-1982 and has led many of our committees which are geared toward raising money for those in need as well as providing service for a variety of non-profit organizations that assist those that need help. Charles is a Paul Harris Fellow which is recognition in Rotary of substantial donations of resources and time to Rotary International that, among other things, has worked to eradicate Polio in the world. More than that though, Charles is a good man of high character that has exemplified not only giving, but service to others in need.

Charles' dedication to Rotary is yet another extension of his service to others, including that in the military where he was awarded the Purple Heart and in his regular life where he married his college sweetheart and had four wonderful children. He continues to support his profession of architecture and demonstratively has maintained his commitment to his alma mater, the University of Oklahoma.

Charles would be an excellent addition to the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame. The organization would certainly gain another person of substantial character whose very being is to sacrifice for the betterment of others.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael S. Linscott".

Michael S. Linscott, President
Will Rogers Rotary Club

MSL/scp

CHARLES W. WARD
ENDORSEMENT
Reverend Tim Blodgett, Pastor



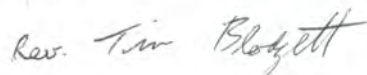
Selection Committee
Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame
PO 30658
Edmond, OK 73003

I am writing today to enthusiastically endorse Charles Ward for the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame. Charles Ward is an icon of the Southminster Presbyterian Church, Brookside community, and Tulsa at large. He would be a deserving recipient of this honor.

Beyond his impressive service as a rifle company commander in World War II, his work in the Tulsa community has changed the face of this city. During his architectural career following the end of World War II, Ward designed the landmark Central Library in Tulsa, the Tulsa Public School's Education Service Center along with numerous other buildings throughout the city and area. The beautiful Tyler Chapel at Southminster Presbyterian Church was another of his designs. He has been awarded countless honors for his architectural design work. I get to enjoy his gifts throughout our facility as he helped to design or update virtually every corner of this building. His talents are remarkable.

As the relatively new pastor of Southminster Presbyterian Church, I have known Charles Ward for the last two years. He has made a lasting impression on me. He is the kind of figure that is treated with the utmost reverence here. A legendary figure for his military service and architectural work, he is among our oldest and longest tenured members. He is a celebrated member for his energy, generosity, and care he has shown to others. At fellowship meals and church parties, he is often the center of attention and the life of the party. We are only a few years removed from him joyfully dancing in the aisle during one of our Fifth Sunday Jazz Sundays (a jazz music service on months with five Sundays). Beginning in the 1970s, Charles Ward began to send Christmas card sketches of cathedrals throughout the world to church members with wonderful personalized messages. They are beloved by folks here and an annual traditional. A collection of dozens of those cards is on display in our church library.

I often say at memorial services that "one way to measure the impact of a person's life is to listen to how many people have a great story about them once they die." One of my joys has been to hear so many stories about Charles Ward's celebrated life while he is still living.



Rev. Tim Blodgett | Pastor

918-743-4427
www.southminstertulsa.org

3500 South Peoria Avenue
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74105

Charles W. Ward



MILITARY

CPT CHARLES W. WARD
WWII MILITARY SERVICE



102nd Division



5th Infantry Division



Army Ground Forces

The following is an edited reprint of “Charles Ward: An Architect of History” written by William Peter Grasso, Greater Tulsa Reporter, October 6, 2010.

When war comes to the United States on **December 7, 1941**, he is a 17-year-old student at a military boarding school in Tennessee. His father — a builder of oil fields who traveled the world — and his mother are in South America, where they will be forced to remain for the duration of the war. Completing military school, he briefly attends the University of Oklahoma until turning 18. Then, in December 1942, he enlists in the US Army and enters Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia.

December 1943. After training in stateside units as a newly commissioned Infantry lieutenant, he joins the 2nd Infantry Regiment, 5th Infantry Division in Northern Ireland as a platoon leader. The division — nicknamed “Red Diamond” for its shoulder patch — is training to participate in the coming invasion and liberation of Europe.

June 9, 1944 (D-Day plus 3). Ward’s platoon lands at Utah Beach and joins the conflict in Normandy. They advance south through the hedgerows of the Cotentin Peninsula to the city of Angers. The 5th Division is then reassigned to Third US Army, commanded by General George Patton. Turning east, Ward and his men begin their steady advance with Patton’s army, pushing the Germans back across central France. Summer turns to fall as they approach the German border, their path blocked by the fortress city of Metz.

September 1944. General Patton, obsessed with the capture of Metz, throws his forces against the 23 heavily defended forts that ring the city. For a solid month, Charles Ward and his fellow soldiers are thrust into a stalemate with fanatical German defenders as they attempt to envelop the city from the south. He describes the bitter fighting at Metz tersely: “We were pretty well decimated.” But he adds that it was a fair fight: the Germans were well beaten-up, too.

Lieutenant Ward receives the Silver Star from Patton himself for his actions under fire. With great irony, he relates what it was like for those being decorated in a combat zone. Ordered to turn in the grimy, foul-smelling battle dress in which they arrived at headquarters, they were issued clean, pressed uniforms so they would look sharp when Patton pinned the medals on their chests. Once the ceremony ended, however, they were

told to surrender the clean uniforms and were re-issued their battle dress, still in the same unwashed state in which it had arrived.

Ultimately, Patton's forces prevail at Metz, though at enormous cost. The city and some of its forts are taken in late November. The remaining forts are bypassed, isolated and eventually surrender. Ward and his men then cross into Germany, reaching the west bank of the Saar River in early December. There, they are withdrawn from the front line for some much-needed rest.

That rest doesn't last very long, however. On **December 16, 1944**, the Germans launch their Ardennes Offensive, commonly known as the Battle of the Bulge. Patton startles his fellow generals — and his own troops, too, Ward says - when he announces that part of his army, to include the 5th Infantry Division, will turn 90 degrees and attack the Bulge's southern flank in a matter of just days. But that's exactly what they do. During this campaign, Lieutenant Ward is promoted to company commander. He insists the promotion is due "strictly to attrition and seniority."

January 1945. The German offensive in the Ardennes has been beaten back. On German soil again, Ward's men crack through the vaunted Siegfried Line and make a treacherous assault crossing of the Rhine, a strategic imperative that opens the path to Frankfurt. There is a change in the German soldiers once they are pushed across the Rhine, Ward notes. "I have tremendous respect for them as fighters," he adds, but they seem to lose their heart for the fight east of the Rhine, as if they know further resistance is pointless. German civilians feel the same, many hanging white flags of surrender from their homes as the Americans approach.

By **May 1945**, Ward's company has advanced through southern Germany and participated in the surrender of an entire German Army in the Ruhr. Then they advance into Czechoslovakia. The war in Europe ends.

Postwar politics dictate that Czechoslovakia is to be occupied by Soviet troops. The Americans pull back into Germany to begin occupation duty and maintain order. Charles Ward, now a captain, finds himself briefly assigned as Bürgermeister (mayor) of a Bavarian town and its surrounding villages. The townspeople are extremely cooperative. They work together to solve the town's most pressing problem: finding enough food to sustain the civilian populace.





July 1945. The 5th Division has returned to the US in preparation for the invasion of Japan. That invasion soon becomes unnecessary. Charles Ward is discharged on **Dec 24, 1945**, and returns to the University of Oklahoma to complete his degree in architecture. He revisits Europe in **1994** for the 50th anniversary of the D-Day invasion.

After three years in the Army that included a continuous year in combat, Charles Ward had risen to the rank of captain and commanded over one hundred men; won a Silver Star, Bronze Star (with "V" device for valor), Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge and the French Croix de Guerre.

MILITARY SERVICE
WWII COMBAT DECORATIONS

	<p>WWII Presidential Unit Citation was awarded in August 1946 by Executive Order of the President Harry S. Truman, and by General Order issued by the Army Chief of Staff, Gen. George C. Marshal. See next page for orders. The award was to E Company and H Company, Second Regiment, Fifth Infantry Division (Charles W. Ward, Company Commander of both companies) for heroic deeds at Sanry-Sur-Nied (Metz), France, Nov 12-14, 1944.</p>
	<p>The Silver Star medal is the third highest military decoration for valor. LT Ward received the medal for gallantry in actions in Luxembourg in the Winter of 1944-45 that assisted in relieving of the 101st Airborne Division at Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge.</p>
	<p>The Bronze Star “V” medal is awarded for acts of heroism and is the fifth-highest combat decoration and the tenth highest U.S. military award. LT Ward received the medal for valor during actions in September 1944 near Vernaville, France during the Battle of the Bulge.</p>
	<p>The French Croix de Guerre avec Palme medal was awarded in July 1946 by the President of the Provisional Government of the French Republic. The award was to members of Company E, Second Regiment, 5th Division (LT Ward, Company Commander) for heroic deeds at Sanry-Sur-Nied, France Nov 12-14, 1944 during the Battle of the Bulge.</p>
	<p>Purple Heart medal was awarded to LT Ward on January 25, 1945 during the Battle of the Bulge. LT Ward took a three-day convalescent leave then returned to duty.</p>
	<p>The Combat Infantryman Badge is awarded to infantrymen and Special Forces soldiers in the rank of colonel and below, who personally fought in active ground combat while assigned as members of either an infantry, ranger or Special Forces unit, of brigade size or smaller, any time after 6 December 1941.</p>
	<p>Battle Stars with WWII Europe-Africa-Middle East Campaign Medal</p> <p>Normandy: 6 June 1944 – 24 July 1944. Allied success, Germans withdraw to central France Utah Beach, Vidiuville, Caumont, St. Lo, Carentan and Isigny. Northern France: 25 July 1944 – 14 September 1944. Allied success; Germans are driven out of Northern France but Allied offensives in France, Germany and the Netherlands stall. Angers, Nantes, Chartres, Etampes, Fontainbleau, Epernay, Reims, Amanvillers and Verneville. Rhineland: 15 September 1944 – 21 March 1945 Allied victory, Germans retreat across Rhine River. Cheminot, Fort Driant, Louvigny, Pagny, Sanry-sur-Nied, Metz, Saarlautern (Germany), Schwarzenborn, Carden and Kochem. Ardennes-Alsace: 16 December 1944 – 25 January 1945 Allied victory, German offensive is driven back. Ecternach (Luxembourg), Berdorf, Ferme Doster, Diekirch, and Kippenhof. Central Europe: 22 March 1945 – 11 May 1945 Allies are triumphant, war in Europe ends with Germany's surrender. Across the Rhine, Oppenheim, Frankfurt, Peterkirchen, Pilsen (Czech), Volary, Bitburg (Germany), Simbach, and Pocking.</p>


MILITARY SERVICE
WWII CAMPAIGN MEDALS

	<p>American Campaign Medal</p> <p>The medal was intended to recognize those military members who had performed military service in the American Theater of Operations during World War II. The criteria were initially announced so that the ribbon could be authorized prior to design of the medal. The American Campaign Medal was issued as a service ribbon only during the Second World War, and wasn't issued as a full-sized medal until 1947. The first recipient of the American Campaign Medal was General of the Army George C. Marshall, Jr.</p>
	<p>WWII Europe-Africa-Middle East Campaign Medal</p> <p>A military award of the United States Armed Forces which was first created on November 6, 1942 by Executive Order 9265 issued by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The medal was to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the European Theater (to include North Africa & Middle East) during the years of the Second World War. The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was awarded as a service ribbon throughout the entire Second World War due to the ribbon design being approved by the Secretary of War in December 1942. The medal design was submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts on 17 September 1946 and the first sample was completed in July 1947. The first recipient of the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal was General of the Army Dwight Eisenhower on 24 July 1947 in recognition of his service as Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force during World War II.</p>
	<p>WWII Victory Campaign Medal</p> <p>The Congressional authorization for the medal specified that it was to be awarded to any member of the United States military, including members of the armed forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands, who served on active duty, or as a reservist, between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946. The World War II Victory Medal was first issued as a service ribbon referred to as the "Victory Ribbon." The World War II Victory Medal was established by an Act of Congress on 6 July 1945. The medal was designed by Mr. Thomas H. Jones and approved by the Secretary of War on 5 February 1946. Consequently, it did not transition from a ribbon to a full medal until after World War II had ended.</p>
	<p>WWII Occupation Campaign Medal</p> <p>The medal was created in the aftermath of the Second World War to recognize those who had performed occupation service in either Germany, Italy, Austria, or Japan. The original Army of Occupation Medal was intended only for members of the United States Army. Although authorized in 1946, it was not until 1947 that the first Army of Occupation Medals were distributed. The first medal was presented to General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower, who had been the Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force Commander during World War II.</p>

MILITARY SERVICE
PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

E Company and H Company, Second Regiment, Fifth Infantry Division
 Charles W. Ward, Company Commander of both companies

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION
 Deserved Honor and Distinction



General Orders)
 No.)

War Department
 Washington 25, D.C., 14 August 45

BATTLE HONORS.— As authorized by Executive Order 8656 (sec. 1, WD Pul. 22, 1943), superseding Executive Order 1178 (sec. III, WD Pul. 13, 1942), citations of the following units in the general orders indicated are confirmed under the provisions of section IV, WD Circular 338, 1943, in the name of the President of the United States as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction:

* * * * * EXTRACT * * * * *

16. Company E, 2d Infantry Regiment; 1st Section, 3d Platoon, Company H, 2d Infantry Regiment; and 1st Platoon, Company A, 735th Tank Battalion, are cited for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy. The mission of Company E on 12 November 1944 was to cross the river Meid at San Py-sur-Meid, France, in the Metz sector, seize and hold the village of San Py and the surrounding high ground, thus protecting the bridge over the river Meid. The assigned mission was accomplished during the ensuing 24 hours in the face of a series of desperate furious counterattacks by a fanatical enemy determined to regain the village and eliminate the bridgehead at any cost. Crossing the river Meid and quickly clearing the village of San Py of hostile forces, Company E, together with its supporting forces, took up defensive positions within the village and on the high ground surrounding it under heavy enemy artillery fire. Almost immediately, supported by intense artillery, mortar, and small-arms fire and discharging staggering losses to his personnel, the enemy launched the first of his series of futile counterattacks with an estimated strength of two companies. Battling fiercely and heroically against overwhelming odds, the personnel of Company E flung back no less than six counterattacks during the night and following day. At one time during the night, the enemy penetrated to within 30 yards of Company E's command post located in the village, but he was forced to withdraw by the stubborn, unyielding resistance and indomitable courage of the personnel of Company E. Finally, his will to continue the struggle broken by the determination of purpose, esprit de corps, and extraordinary heroism of the officers and men of Company E, the enemy withdrew from the field of battle on the morning of 13 November 1944 and the success of the bridgehead was insured. Based on observations and statements of prisoners, it is estimated that the determined resistance of the defending troops cost the enemy 525 to 530 killed, wounded, and captured, and only remnants remained of all the units totalling an estimated strength of 700 to 750 men that participated in the six counterattacks. The actions of the personnel of Company E, 2d Infantry Regiment; 1st Section, 3d Platoon, Company H, 2d Infantry Regiment; and 1st Platoon, Company A, 735th Tank Battalion, in successfully accomplishing their mission in the face of the heaviest odds were in accordance with the highest standards of the military service. (General Order 16, Headquarters 5th Infantry Division, 25 February 1945, as approved by the Commanding General, European Theater of Operations.)

* * * * * EXTRACT * * * * *

By Order of the Secretary of War:

OFFICIAL:

HAROLD F. WITSELL Major General Acting the Adjutant General	G. C. MESSILL Chief of Staff
---	---------------------------------

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

Charles W. Ward
 CHARLES W. WARD
 2d Lt., 2d Inf
 1st Lt. Adjutant

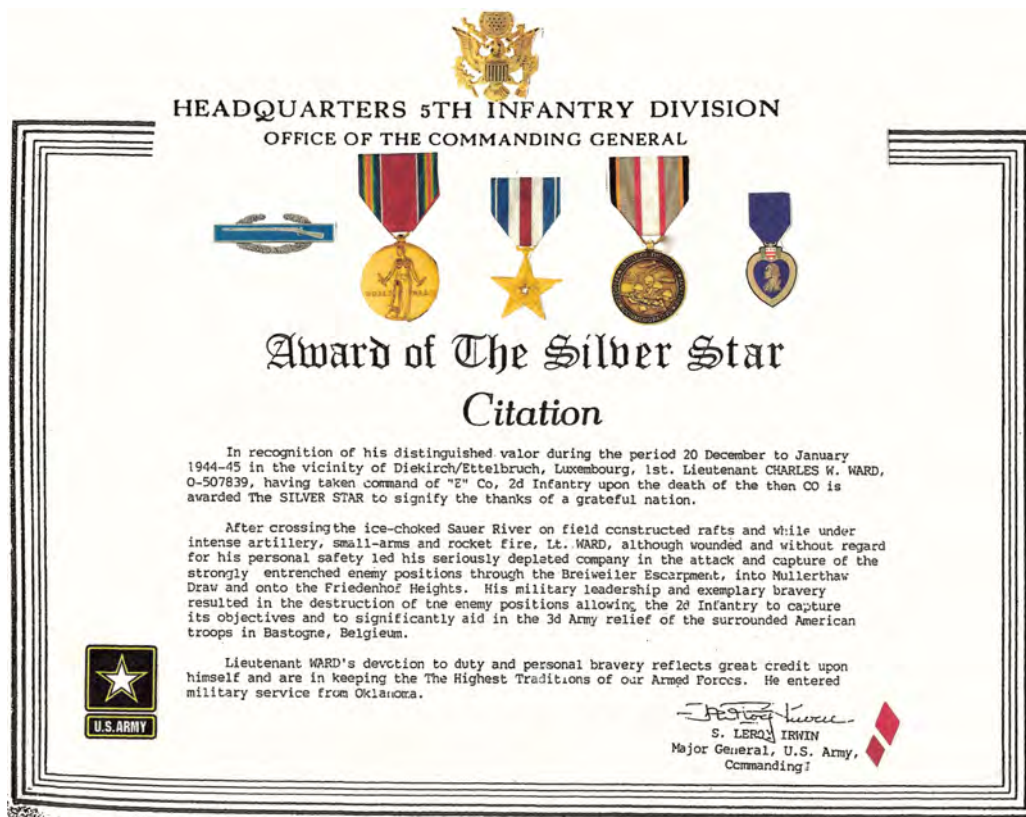
MILITARY SERVICE
SILVER STAR AT BATTLE OF THE BULGE



LT Charles W. Ward



General George S. Patton



The Silver Star awarded to LT Charles Ward was personally pinned on his chest by General George S. Patton. Citation text includes "... after crossing the ice-choked Sauer River on field constructed rafts and while under intense artillery, small arms and rocket fire, LT Ward, although wounded and without regard for his personal safety led his seriously depleted company in the attack and capture of the strongly entrenched enemy positions through the Breiweiler Escarpment, into the Mullerthaw Draw and onto the Friedenhof Heights. His military leadership and exemplary bravery resulted in the destruction of enemy positions allowing the 2nd Infantry to capture its objectives and significantly aid in the 3rd Army relief of the surrounded American troops at Bastogne."

MILITARY SERVICE
FRENCH CROIX de GUERRE avec PALME

Association Nationale des Croix de Guerre, des T.O.E. et de la Valeur Militaire



The French Croix de Guerre avec Palme medal was awarded in July 1946 by the President of the Provisional Government of the French Republic. Citation translation below:

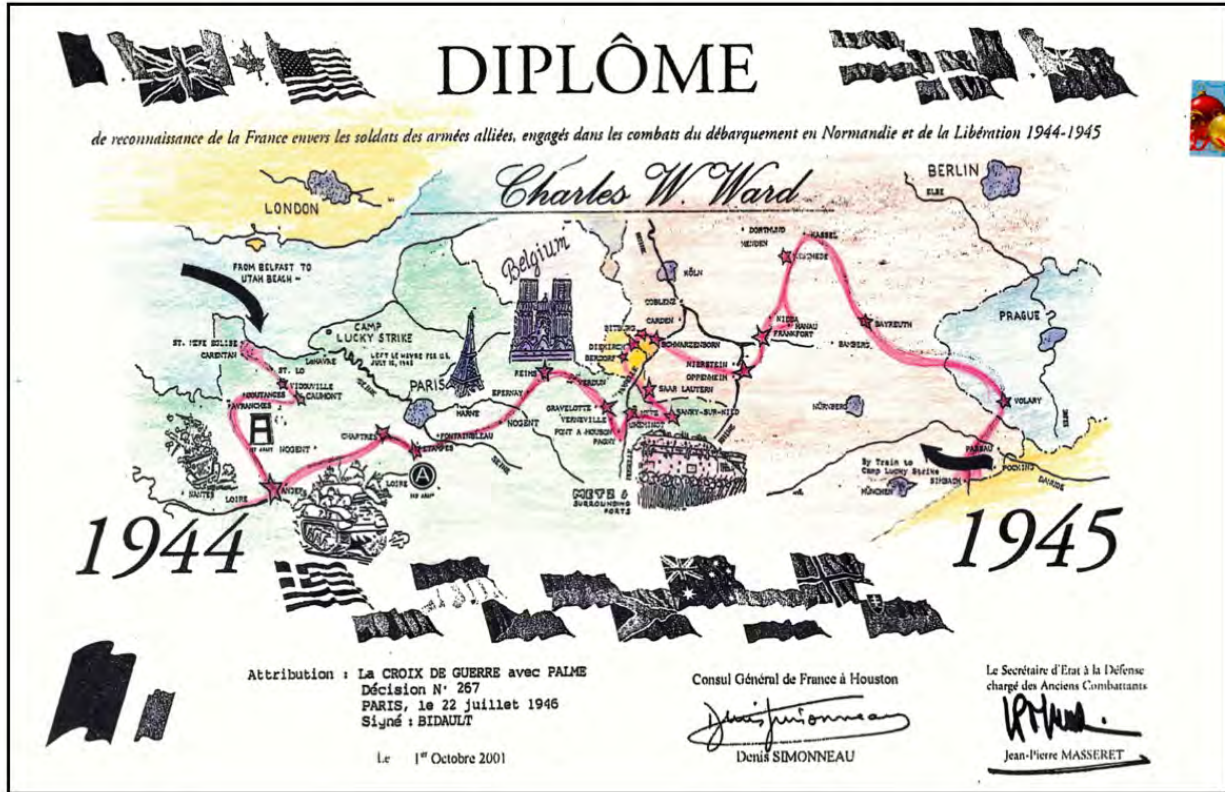
NAME: Charles William Ward

CITATION: By Order of the Army

“Member of Company ‘E’ of the 2nd Infantry Regiment of the 5th Infantry Division, a unit imbued with the highest military qualities. The company displayed an unshakeable will in not capitulating to the enemy during the fierce fighting which took place from the 12th to the 14th of November, 1944, at Sanry-Sur-Nied. While taking possession of the city on the 12th of November, the Company had to face six, fierce, successive counter-attacks carried out by the reinforced detachments which the enemy led after the battle from the streets to the interior of the city. The company retained possession of the city while totally destroying the enemy forces, causing them losses of more than 500 dead or wounded.”

MILITARY SERVICE
REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE DIPLOME

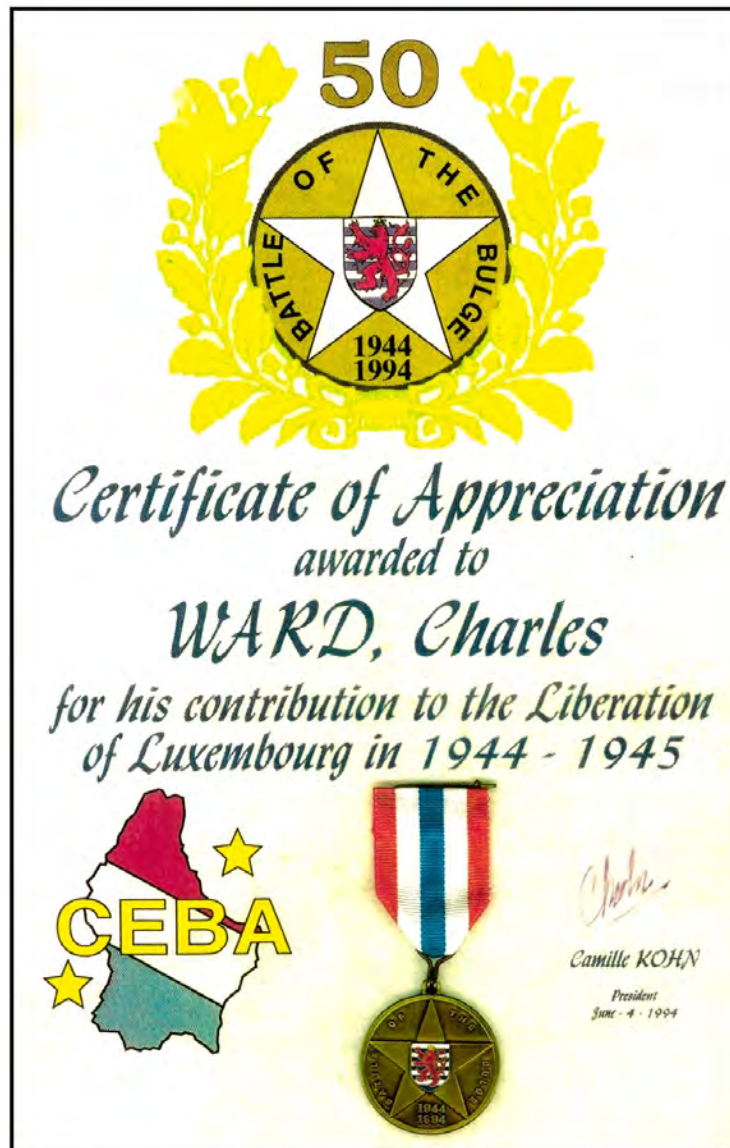
de reconnaissance de la France envers les soldats des armes alliées
 dans les combats du débarquement en Normandie et de la Liberation 1944-1945



The certificate above was awarded to CPT Charles W. Ward, and accompanied the award of the French Croix de Guerre avec Palme awarded to C Company, Second Regiment, Fifth Infantry Division per the following pages. The certificate was augmented with color pencil by Mr. Ward and traces his path across Europe.

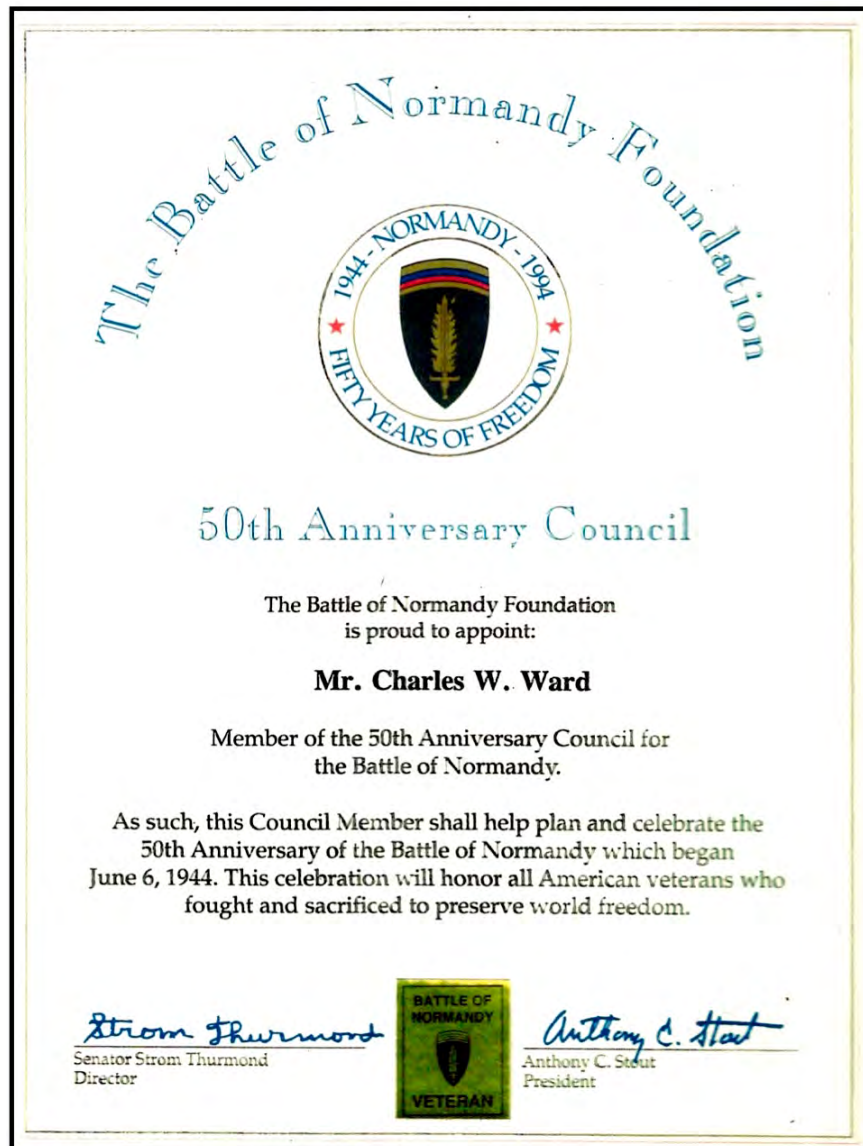
This certificate depicts the Normandy landing site of Utah Beach, and follows Company C through France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany and Czechoslovakia. The major battles related to the Battle of the Bulge include Metz, Sanry-sur-Nied, and Saar Lautern. Other conflicts included Chartres, Reims, Vernaville and other areas indicated by stars.

MILITARY SERVICE
LUXEMBOURG LIBERATION



Luxembourg was liberated by Allied forces in September 1944. Allied tanks entered the capital city on 10 September 1944, where the Germans retreated without fighting. The Allied advance triggered the resistance to rise up: at Vianden, members of the Luxembourgish resistance fought a much larger German force at the Battle of Vianden Castle. In mid-December, the Germans launched the "Ardennes Offensive" (Battle of the Bulge) in Luxembourg and the Belgian Ardennes. Though the city of Luxembourg remained in Allied hands throughout, much of the north of the country was lost to German forces and had to be liberated again.

MILITARY SERVICE
BATTLE OF NORMANDY FOUNDATION



The Western Allies of World War II launched the largest amphibious invasion in history when they assaulted Normandy on 6 June 1944. Allied land forces came from the United States, Britain, Canada, and Free French forces. In the weeks following the invasion, Polish forces and contingents from Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Greece and the Netherlands participated in the ground campaign. In the early morning, amphibious landings commenced on five beaches codenamed Sword, Juno, Gold, Omaha and Utah, with troops from the United States landing on Omaha and Utah. Land forces used on D-Day sailed from bases along the south coast of England. LT Ward's platoon landed at Utah Beach on D-Day + 3.

MILITARY SERVICE

WORLD WAR II IN HIS OWN WORDS

Listed below are some notable recollections and quotes from Charles Ward:

CATHEDRAL OF OUR LADY OF CHARTRES: “My troops were the first to go into the Chartres Cathedral in France, and I was overwhelmed by what I saw. Here was something built a thousand years ago that was the most beautiful thing I had ever seen. It made a great impression on me.” *Religion Through Art, Tulsa World, June 25, 2011.*

CATHEDRAL OF OUR LADY OF REIMS: Sgt. Benny and I were the first Americans (since the war began) to enter the famous Cathedral ... [even before “Kilroy”]. For years, I treasured the Rosary given to each of us by the ecstatic Priest.” *The Boys of Summer, Charles Ward’s recollections of his experiences in the Normandy Invasion and the Summer of 1944.*

“I was a naïve 18-year-old hiding in the attic of a family in the resistance. My only field of vision from the tiny attic window was the cathedral. After school and many years of practicing the art of architecture, I believe to this day that my view from that attic was the most beautiful in the world.” *Renewing the fine art of card making, Tulsa People, December 2000*

BATTLE OF THE BULGE: Charles Ward received the Silver Star for his efforts to relieve the 101st Airborne at Bastogne. He said, “Bastogne was the key to the situation in the Battle of the Bulge, just like Gettysburg was the key to the Civil War” *Battle of the Bulge Strategy Recalled, Tulsa World.*

“Metz was a horrible place to attack ... we lost lots I’m afraid ... an I was one of only a few officers who made it through. I don’t know why. It wasn’t anything I did.” *Battle of the Bulge Strategy Recalled”, Tulsa World.*

MEDALS: “Think of all those who deserved medals, so many of whom still lie in Europe and across the Pacific ... but didn’t get them.” “*Charles Ward: An Architect of History*” *Greater Tulsa Reporter, October 6, 2010.*

GENERAL PATTON: As he was receiving his Silver Star from General Patton, Ward observed “he had a bearing about him. He looked like he was in charge”. *Battle of the Bulge Strategy Recalled”, Tulsa World.*

OCCUPATION FORCES: As the occupying forces in Bavaria, CPT Ward was assigned as the Burgermeister (Mayor) of Simbach am Inn. It was the German twin city to Braunau, Austria – birthplace of Hitler. He said “Just a few days earlier you were trying to kill these people. Now we were taking care of them. Really, I came away with no hatred for the Germans, no animosity.” *Battle of the Bulge Strategy Recalled”, Tulsa World.*

MILITARY SERVICE
BURGERMEISTER (MAYOR) OF SIMBACH am INN

When the WWII ended, CPT Ward was in Czechoslovakia. Postwar politics dictate that Czechoslovakia is to be occupied by Soviet troops. The Americans pull back into Germany to begin occupation duty and maintain order. In July 1945, General George Patton was assigned to be the Governor of Bavaria.

As a 20-year-old company commander, the Occupation Forces appointed CPT Ward to be the Burgermeister (Mayor) of Simbach an Inn, Bavaria, Germany and its surrounding villages. Simbach was on the German side of the Inn River separating Germany from Austria. The other side of the river was Braunau am Inn, Austria, the birthplace of Adolf Hitler.

He said “the townspeople are extremely cooperative”. They work together to solve the town’s most pressing problem: finding enough food to sustain the civilian populace.

CPT Ward served in that position until his redeployment to the United States in July 1945.



MILITARY SERVICE
JANE RUSSELL AND PARIS

When Charles Ward was in Officer Candidate School, he developed a friendship with the soldier standing next to him in alphabetical order. That was Bob Waterfield who was an All-American football player at UCLA prior to induction. Waterfield was married his high school sweetheart from Van Nuys, CA – Jane Russell – who accompanied him to Fort Benning.

Mr. Ward said that Bob, Jane and others socialized together. One of his keepsakes is a studio photo of Ms. Russell - with the inscription ... “To Charles From Jane ... I will never forget your first night in Paris ... xoxo.”



Charles W. Ward



OKLAHOMA

OKLAHOMA
LEARNING ARCHITECTURE FROM A MASTER



Frank Lloyd Wright shown with Charles Ward and classmates at the University of Oklahoma College of Architecture. Architecture student Ward is the middle student over Wright's left shoulder. Charles Ward graduate from the University of Oklahoma with a Bachelor's of Architecture degree in 1950. His pursuit of an architectural career had its root in the Cathedrals of Our Lady in both Chartres and Reims. LT Ward was among the first Americans to enter both Cathedrals since the war began. He was inspired the architectural beauty of the cathedrals to pursue architectural design as a career. Later in life he published annual Christmas cards with his original drawings of the great cathedrals of Europe.

The French Cathedrals of Charles Ward

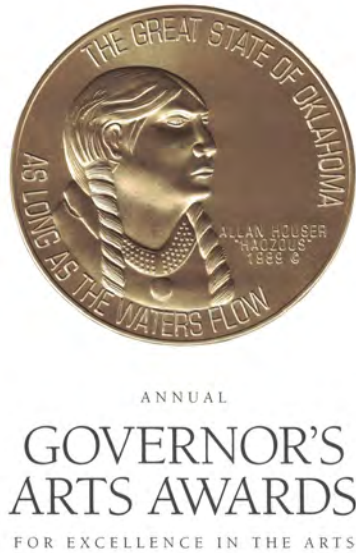


Our Lady of Chartres



Our Lady of Reims

OKLAHOMA
GOVERNOR'S ART AWARD 2012



CITATION TEXT: Tulsa's Charles Ward has established a long legacy of innovative architectural design in Oklahoma. From the Gilcrease Museum Special Exhibits Gallery and the Tulsa Civic Center Plaza to the Tulsa Central Library and other libraries and schools and stadiums, Ward's iconic designs have left an indelible mark on the built environment of many Oklahoma communities.

Ward is equally proficient as an artist, well known for his intricate pencil and pen drawings of buildings on the University of Oklahoma campus such as the Boyd House, Evans Hall, and the Bizzell Memorial Library, which Ward donated for University publications.

Ward has also crafted hand drawn renderings of famous cathedrals, including Notre Dame, St. Paul's Cathedral in London, St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City, and Westminster Abbey.

Throughout his career, Ward has been an active community leader and volunteer. Among his many honors, Ward was presented with a Regent's Alumni Award by the University of Oklahoma President David Boren in 2007. At age 87, Ward continues to maintain his office and capture historic buildings with his pen and pencil.

Inset photo: Governor's Arts Award for Excellence in the Arts is presented by Governor Mary Fallin at the State Capitol Rotunda, November 8, 2012.

OKLAHOMA OU REGENTS ALUMNI AWARD

The purpose of this award is to honor up to 10 individuals, either alumni or friends of the University of Oklahoma, who have given generously of their time and services to the University. This does not eliminate consideration of donors who provide financial support in addition to giving generously of their time and talent. However, this is not an award based solely on monetary contributions. Criteria include: Demonstration of leadership in working with faculty/staff to help the University achieve its goals; publicizing the University in an area away from the campus to expand awareness of the institution, assistance in student and/or faculty recruitment; coordination of fundraising activities, and participation on University committees or councils.



CITATION TEXT: Charles W. Ward, an award-winning Tulsa architect, was among the thousands of veterans who entered college after World War II. A decorated veteran of both D-Day and the Battle of the Bulge, he received the Silver Star, the Bronze Star with “V,” the French Croix de Guerre avec Palme, and the Purple Heart with clusters. Ward entered OU in 1946, where he was active in Phi Delta Theta and studied under legendary architecture professor Bruce Goff.

A 1950 graduate, Ward gained fame for his work on many public projects, including Tulsa’s Central Library, the Tulsa Public School’s Education Service Center and the Rosenberg Library in Galveston, Texas, among other buildings.

He is known locally and by OU alumni and friends for his intricately detailed pen and pencil drawings of many of the most historic and beautiful buildings on the Norman campus. These prized drawings—two of which hang behind OU President David Boren’s office desk—also have graced the “Fearsome Football Forecast” he produces annually for family and friends and have become gifts and mementos among members of the OU family.

He donated his time and talent to produce the 2002 University of Oklahoma calendar, which brought together some of his past work as well as new drawings that he created especially for the calendar, allowing a much wider circle of alumni and friends to enjoy his creative efforts.

Ward is a President’s Associate and a life member of the Alumni Association, and he has supported scholarships, the College of Architecture, athletics and Reunion Programs.

Inset photo: Award presented to Charles Ward by OU President David Boren (left) and OU Regent Tom Clark (right) on May 11, 2007

OKLAHOMA THE OU FEARSOME FORECASTER



Charles Ward
Fearsome Forecaster

Charles Ward's fandom is more cerebral than obvious. No bumper stickers. No Sooner Schooner wallpaper.

The Tulsa architect's main claim to fan fame is his *Fearsome Football Forecast*, a publication he started in 1984. It features a depth chart, his take on the coming season, his own brand of witty commentary, and, on its cover, a spectacularly intricate pen or pencil drawing of a campus building.

"President (David) Boren has some of my drawings on his office walls," Ward smiles.

He mails the FFF in early August to slightly more than 100 University of Oklahoma fanatics, from Bangor, Maine, to San Diego, California. Ward intimates the only way to get on his list is to wait for someone to pass over to that Owen Field in the sky.

Ward, who attended OU after returning from the service in World War II, fondly remembers the era when Bud Wilkinson was a new coach. "The whole campus caught the spirit of the thing", he says ticking off the legendary names of Tommy McDonald, Darryl Royal and Junior Thomas like they came from the 1999 roster.

Until recently, when he cut back on his Norman trips and began listening to the games on the radio, attending games was a family affair. "We had seats in the upper deck. We got there early enough so my boys could play on the practice field. Oh, they thought that was great fun. And the tail gate parties. I loved the tail gate parties. It was all so wonderful—especially if you won."

Article by Anita Larson.
Photography by Jon Peterson.

22 TulsaPeople • September 1999

Prediction

Back to the future: 7-4

A season of seven wins and four losses with some tough match-ups is in the cards for the Sooners. Wins: Indiana State, Baylor, Louisville, Texas A&M (best game of the year), Missouri (biggest win margin), Iowa State and OSU. Losses: Notre Dame, (close but no cigar), Texas, Colorado and Texas Tech.



Al Jenkins
KRM 2 Sports

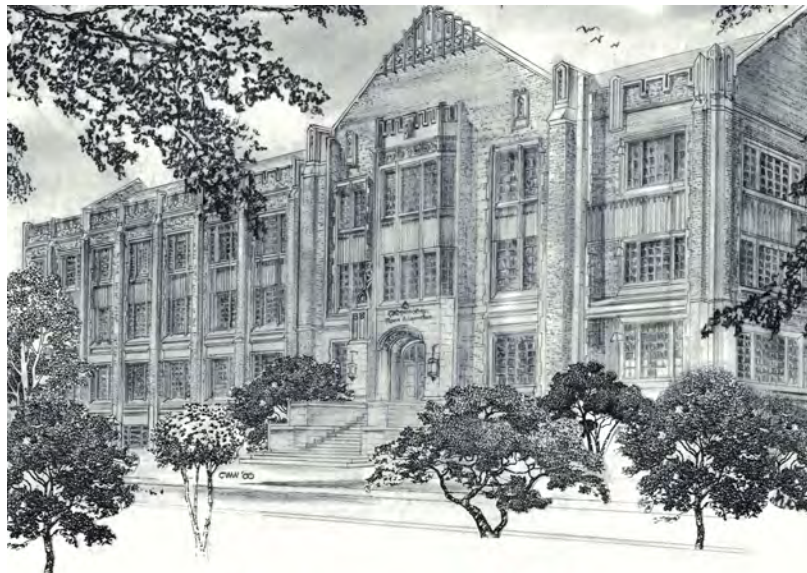
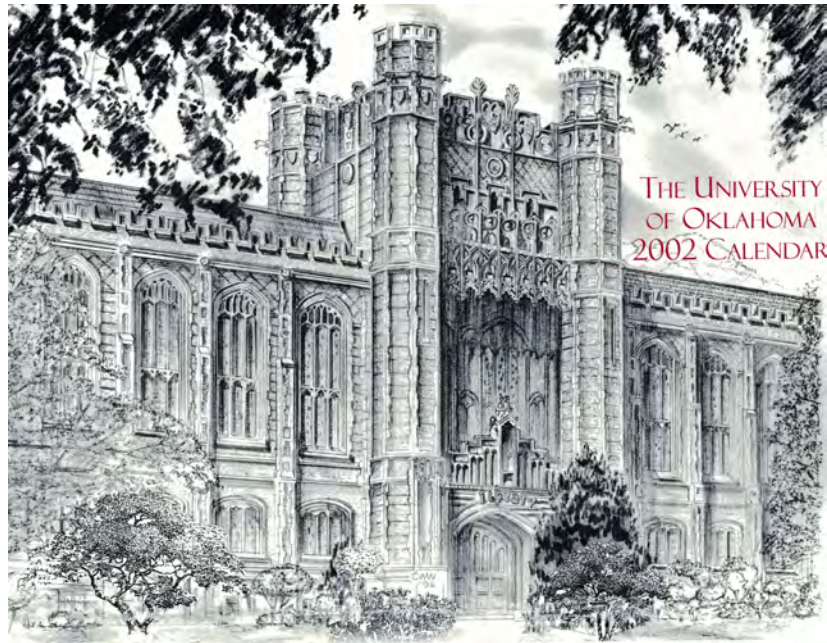
Schedule

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Sept. 11	Indiana State	Norman, Okla.	6:30 PM
Sept. 18	Baylor	Norman, Okla.	6:30 PM
Sept. 25	Louisville	Louisville, Ky.	6:00 PM
Oct. 2	Notre Dame	South Bend, Ind.	12:30 PM
Oct. 9	Texas	Dallas, Texas	2:30 PM
Oct. 23	Texas A&M	Norman, Okla.	2:00 PM
Oct. 30	Colorado	Boulder, Colo.	TBA
Nov. 6	Missouri	Norman, Okla.	2:00 PM
Nov. 13	Iowa State	Ames, Iowa	1:00 PM
Nov. 20	Texas Tech	Lubbock, Texas	1:00 PM
Nov. 27	Oklahoma State	Norman, Okla.	2:00 PM

For many years, Tulsa architect and OU alumnus Charles Ward has created intricately detailed pen and pencil drawings of the OU Norman campus' most historical and beautiful buildings. These drawings have graded the "Fearsome Football Forecast" he produces annually for family and friends and have become treasured gifts and mementos among members of the OU family.

The 1999 OU football season was the first for Bob Stoops. The Fearsome Forecaster predicted a "Back to the Future" year of 7-4; every game picked perfectly – and OU truly was on their way to "back to the future" as the Sooners won the national championship the following year.

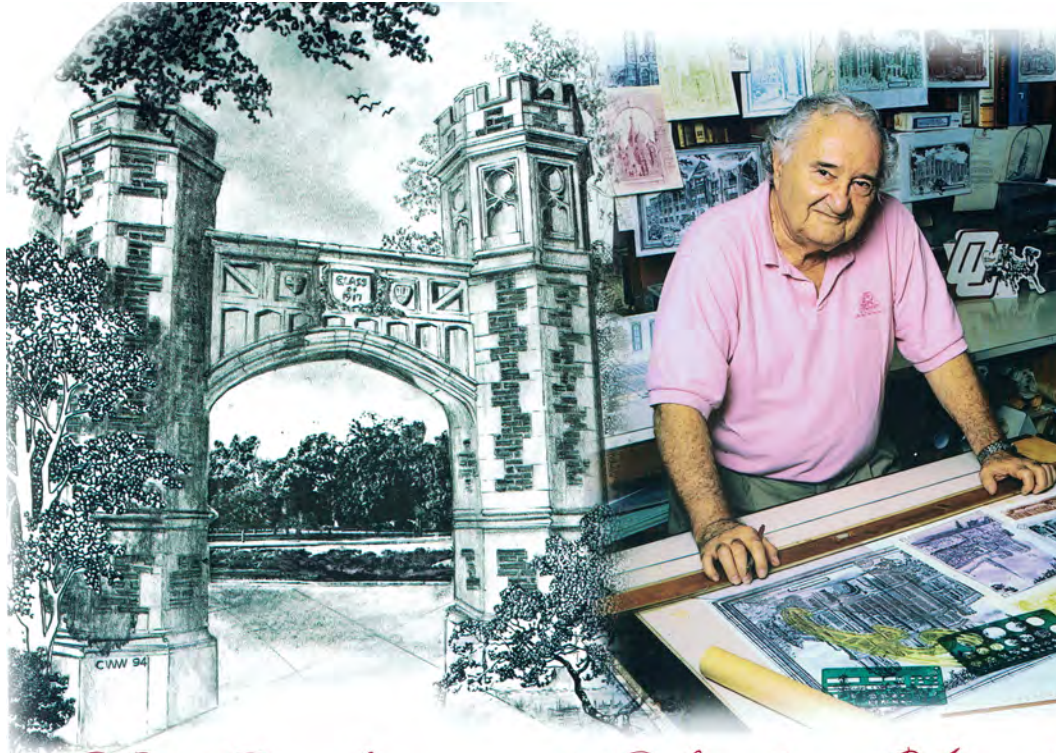
OKLAHOMA
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA 2002 CALENDAR



Adams Hall

For many years, Tulsa architect and OU alumnus Charles Ward has created intricately detailed pen and pencil drawings of the OU Norman campus' most historical and beautiful buildings. He generously donated his time and talent to create the 2002 official OU calendar which brings together some of his past work and new drawings created for this calendar. He is a 1950 graduate of the University of Oklahoma.

OKLAHOMA
1990 OU CENTENNIAL ARCH CAMPAIGN



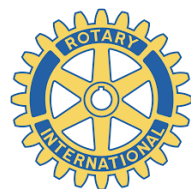
OU Arches and Charles Ward

The OU Centennial Arches stand in tribute to the students, faculty, staff and alumni whose 100 years of dedication, diligence, enthusiasm and sacrifice have transformed The University of Oklahoma from a struggling territorial school into a major, comprehensive institution of higher learning. They celebrate the University's first 100 years. A student committee headed up this project which involved students, faculty, staff, and alumni as well as supporters in the community. The arches are located on the south end of Van Vleet Oval, north of the campus dorms.

In the fall of 1990, Ward gave boost to the student's Centennial Arch Campaign – his project outline illustrated by a sketch of one of the early arches. For *Sooner Magazine*, Ward insisted on producing a new sketch along with this plea:

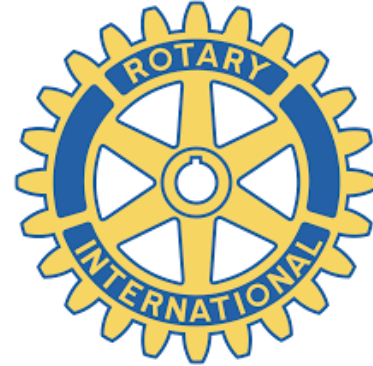
“Don't let Richard Kuhlman see this drawing. Dick is one of those profs one remembers with affection through a lifetime – but during my days as one of his design students, he was chagrined that I drew so poorly and took it upon himself, as an extra curricular activity, to teach me to draw. Although he may wish to enter a strong disclaimer, what I do today is pretty much what he taught me. So if he sees this sketch, I'm pretty sure that he will say, 'he's been at it for 50 years and he still can't get a three point perspective right!' “

Charles W. Ward



COMMUNITY

CIVILIAN PUBLIC SERVICE
LEADERSHIP – AWARDS – PROJECTS



PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

President, Eastern OK Chapter of American Institute of Architects
President, Architectural League of Tulsa
Co-Chair, Model Cities Development Program

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Chairman, Aaronson Memorial Lecture Committee
Chairman, Construction Division, Tulsa United Way
President, Propeller Club of Tulsa
President, Men's Forum of Tulsa
Director, Tulsa Science Foundation
Elder Chairman of the Congregation, Southminster Presbyterian Church

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP

University of Tulsa Board of Visitors
University of Oklahoma College of Architecture Board of Visitors
University of Oklahoma Alumni Development Fund Citation
University of Oklahoma, Associate of the University
University of Oklahoma, George L. Cross Council
Instructor, Tulsa Community College

ARCHITECTURAL PROJECTS

All in Tulsa unless noted

Libraries

Tulsa Central Library, Rudisill Regional Allie Beth Martin Regional Rosenberg Library (Galveston), Buckley Public Library (Poteau), Master Plan (OSU-OKC)

Religious

Southminster Presbyterian Church
Tyler Memorial Chapel

Civic

The Tulsa Civic Center Plaza
Parkland Plaza Office Building
Exhibits Gallery, Gilcrease Museum
Texas Maritime Museum (Galveston)

YMCA Buildings

Thornton Family YMCA
Wayne Lawson YMCA
Modernization of Carver YMCA
Modernization of YMCA (Ponca City)

Public Schools

Charles Mason, Education Service Center
Modernization of Carver Middle School and Washington High School
LaFortune Stadium (Memorial HS)
Seymour Williams Stadium (BTWHS)

Other Awards

Outstanding Service Award, American Red Cross, Eastern OK
Paul Harris Fellow, Will Rogers Rotary Club, Tulsa
American Institute of Architects: Eastern OK Chapter, Distinguished Service Citation

CIVILIAN PUBLIC SERVICE
ARCHITECT BUILT LOVING HOME FOR GRANDKIDS

Ginnie Graham, Tulsa World, Sep 28, 2013

Renowned Tulsa architect Charles Ward, 89, has a room of honors for his designs, including the downtown Central Library, Southminster Presbyterian Church and the "Comma" house, where he lived for decades.

The World War II veteran is a popular source with his wealth of stories, charming wit and overall upbeat spirit. Yet, his greatest achievement may be something he never thought twice about and has never mentioned in interviews. At age 67, he took in his orphaned grandchildren and raised them in a tight-knit family of overachievers.

"I was just lucky and had good grandkids," he says.

"I wish I could say we thought it all out back then. But, we didn't. It was something that had to be done, so we did it."

It couldn't have been that easy, says his granddaughter Elizabeth Carroll, a 33-year-old senior counsel at Samson Energy. "Of all the wonderful things he is known for, most people don't know what a fantastic dad and granddad he is," she said.



Elizabeth Carroll
and Charles Ward

"My grandparents took us in with grace and kindness and never looked back. Their home was our home, as they reminded us many times. We were typical teenagers and more than a little troublesome, but they never expressed anything but love and patience."

Not alone: This side of Ward comes from a loving granddaughter who read a news report on the growing number of grandparents raising their grandchildren. She realizes the statistics are mostly troubling. She wants to show how grandparents can be powerful in a child's life. She wants to give those in grandparent-grandchild households hope.

"In life, you just have to let go of the things you can't control," she said. "You can't worry about the things you can't fix. You can only take responsibility for now and move forward."

The Pew Research Center recently found one in 10 children was living with a grandparent in 2011, a rise since the recession began in 2009. The census analysis found those children more likely to be living in poverty, mainly because of limited income among retired people.

About half of the children are in a home with a parent and grandparent. Those parents have "characteristics suggestive of the need for family assistance," such as teenage parenthood, disability or unemployment.

STABLE FORCE

For Carroll, she and her older brother lost their mother to cancer in 1989 and their father to cirrhosis of the liver in 1991. Carroll was 11 and her brother 15. She recalls her father struggling with alcoholism, which led to some chaos in their home. "We landed in a very stable place many kids don't get," she said. "My transition was pretty seamless. They were a very stable force in our lives. They had always been there in that role."

Ward and his late wife, Shirley, raised two boys, who each had two children. They were enjoying semi-retirement and hosting their grandchildren often when the deaths occurred. While grieving the losses, Carroll and her brother — Charles Ward IV — moved from Oklahoma City to Tulsa. "You just have to push forward," Ward said. "I will say the second time was a lot easier than the first. You have some idea what's going to happen. The first time around, you can't believe what's happening."

THINKING BACK

Over lunch, the two exchanged memories of how they came to live together and what life was like. They split a hamburger, which worried Ward about his granddaughter's appetite. "Oh, Liz, that's not enough for you," he says.

After Carroll assured him it was enough food, they spoke of Memorial High School. "This sweet man got up at 5 a.m. to take me to swim practice before school, and then my sweet grandma picked me up from school," Carroll said.

Ward recalled details from his grandson's academic bowl and German club and the "perfectly straight spine" Carroll perfected in her swim competitions. "I loved watching them go through high school," Ward said. "I thought, 'This is kind of interesting' Those were good times."

Carroll's maternal grandparents lived in Claremore and have been active participants and supporters in their lives. "I also have aunts and uncles who were there for us if we needed," she said.

After high school, both grandchildren went to the University of Oklahoma for bachelor's and law degrees, a proud moment for Ward, also a Sooner alumnus. "It gave me an excuse to go see more OU football games," he said.

His two other grandchildren grew up in Hawaii, one now working at the BBC in London and the other a pediatrician. Charles Ward IV is living in Juneau, Alaska, working as a journalist. Ward is now retired, officially closing his office last week.

"I am blessed and grateful for the life my grandparents gave me and for their support throughout the years," Carroll said. "They are shining examples of what grandparents can do for their grandkids in need."

CIVILIAN PUBLIC SERVICE
THE TULSA LIBRARY

Central Library's original architect marvels at its new design
By Ginnie Graham, Tulsa World News Columnist Oct 4, 2016

Walking around the Central Library with retired architect Charles Ward feels like hanging out with a celebrity. Nearly everyone seems to know the 92-year-old. Those who don't know him want to meet him. He does a lot of hand-shaking and waving. He answers the same question: "So, what do you think of this library?"

"I think it's marvelous. It's really something special," Ward says with a smile. He is rarely without a smile. The library's \$55 million, three-year renovation was unveiled Saturday and has been doing a brisk business with patrons and curious residents.

In a rare treat, the original architect of the building constructed more than 50 years ago is alive, well and with a bank of happy memories of Tulsa's budding downtown. That's Charles Ward. After a Monday meeting of the Will Rogers Rotary Club, which he has belonged to for 50 years, Ward and I explored the library together.

"What is so gratifying is that it looks the same from the outside. I was very pleased with that. Inside, it looks the same except back then it was more full of books," Ward said. "This has become an icon of the city. This library is almost the symbol of Tulsa."

His stamp still remains: Ward qualifies as a living Tulsa treasure. He is delightful and ready with a quip or observation, and his vision literally helped mold the look of the city. Built for \$1.8 million with a city bond issue, Central Library opened in June 1965 to a standing-room-only crowd. Within four months, it had become a tourist destination and called the "jewel" of downtown Tulsa.

Ward designed the library with Joseph Koberling as a modern but classic model of future libraries. W.R. Grimshaw Construction Co. was the builder on the project. It was revolutionary in library architecture, mirrored throughout the nation and featured in a New York Times story. Before then, librarians pulled books for patrons while heavy, immobile furniture was the preferred interior design. Ward's library opened up to spacious floor plans, low stacks for more access to books, display kiosks for materials and plans for expansion.

"There were so many unique qualities. Something as silly as carpet had never been done in a library before," he said. "This was the first time there were no restricted rooms to patrons."

The exterior style was conceived of Greek architecture with contemporary twists such as starburst columns. The four-story footprint was seen as adequate for the time, but the basement could be used as working space and foundation to handle two more floors. The

design took into consideration the Maxwell Convention Center, which was the only building in the plaza at the time. Ward's stamp is still there. The travertine marble chosen for its durability and color remains, along with the columns and open spaces.

"What's important is to make a library usable to the public so the public feels a part of it and not feel like they are walking into a commercial building. It's a place that they can call their own," he said.

A prominent feature — a Clarence Day quote beginning with "The world of books is the most remarkable creation of man" — is now permanently etched above the staircase. That was chosen by Ward.

"That was nice of them to leave that," he said. "I just saw that in a book of quotes and felt that is what libraries were all about."

Libraries in the 21st century offer more in usage of technology, including lockers for picking up hold materials, a "maker station" with 3-D printing, silk-screening equipment and a digital recording studio. When the Central Library first opened, the lights were turned on via a satellite transmission from Washington, D.C., which symbolized the space and electronic age.

"Computers were just coming on the market when the library was built, and the subject came up," Ward said. "We tried to anticipate what would happen, but we really didn't know. It's just wonderful how it all worked out."

Built to last: Ward's other designs include the Southminster Presbyterian Church, Page Belcher Golf Course, Rudisill North Regional Library and Martin Regional Library. In 1963 he designed the "Comma" house at 7007 S. Delaware Place, where he lived for decades with his late wife, Shirley. The home is known for its circular architecture with built-in cabinets and closet space and a balcony overlooking the southeast. Among his other Tulsa designs is the Thornton Family YMCA, which has been renamed the Tandy Family YMCA and is undergoing a \$21 million renovation through the first of next year.

He has received numerous honors including a Governor's Art Award and the University of Oklahoma Regents Alumni Award. In World War II, Ward fought from Utah Beach to the Battle of the Bulge and served as a Burgermeister (German for mayor) of a city during post-war recovery.

"Just like the Central Library, it really looks almost exactly the way it was before. But I'm looking at the exterior and can't tell a difference," Ward said. "I'd love to look inside it sometime."

When asked what it's like to see his buildings last for more than half a century, he continues to smile. "I am very gratified and it's wonderful," he said.