

# Park honors Medal of Honor recipient alum

By Tiffany Benson  
Staff Reporter

On Thursday, November 10th, Park University held a dedication ceremony outside of Thompson Commons in honor of alumnus 1st Lt. George S. Robb.

Lt. Robb is a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor for his service to his country during WWI, according to a press release by Park University. The ceremony included a plaque dedication and the raising of the recipient flag in honor of Robb, class of 1912. In addition to this honor, The George S. Robb Centre for the Study of the Great War has been instituted in Lt. Robb's honor and aims to inform and prepare undergraduates for success in areas of history and military services.

"The Congressional Medal of Honor is the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force which can be bestowed upon an individual serving in the Armed Services of the United States," wrote Timothy Westcott, associate professor of history, in an e-mail to the Stylus. "The award is generally presented to its recipient by the President of the United States of America in the name of Congress."

Westcott also affirmed that the George S. Robb Centre for the Study of the Great War shall advance an international awareness encompassing aspects of



Photo courtesy of Jenalea Myers.

Robb's family attending the ceremony (from left to right): grandson, Harry Robb Welty, and wife, Claudia, Duluth, Minn.; great-niece (and daughter of David Robb), Ellen Robb, Palo Alto, Calif.; nephew, David Robb, Salina, Kan.; and grandson, Andy Robb Welty, St. Louis, Mo.

World War I (1914-1918) through exploration, dialogue, scholarship, education, and examination of humanistic and non-humanistic endeavors associated with enhancement of global perspectives.

"Park University has a rich history with all the military branches via educational opportunities," wrote Westcott, "but it is also rich due to the fact that students and alumnus have served in peace and war times. Recognition of heroic service highlights the esprit de corps that all Park University students and alumnus can be proud of."

When his commanding officer was killed, Lt. Robb assumed command and led the platoon to exceed its original target, earning him the Congressional Medal of Honor in 1919. He died on May 14, 1972, at the age of 84, and is buried in Salina, Kan.

His medal is on display in the Kansas Museum of History in Topeka, Kan. Lt. Robb was a commendable patriot who will be remembered for his selfless acts that demonstrates and prepares the way for men and women who are serving or will serve in the United States Armed Forces.