

Class of 2015 chooses gift of memory and meaning: Alumni Memorial

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May 22, 2015 -- In time for Memorial Day, renovation and landscaping of the Army War College Alumni Memorial to graduates killed in hostile action will be completed this weekend.

The USAWC Class of 2015 chose to give an enduring gift to the College and its alumni, according to Byron Smith, a member of the student gift committee. "We considered the Alumni Memorial to be a meaningful and lasting contribution linking us both to The War College and to fallen Soldiers," he said.

Sneak peek, right, of work in progress to re-face and up-lift the Alumni Memorial .

Current students were introduced to the Alumni Memorial this year during the Nov. 10, 2014 memorial ceremony when family, faculty, students and colleagues from throughout the Army gathered to honor the memory of Maj. Gen. Harold J. "Harry" Greene, killed in August in Kabul, Afghanistan. *(photo, below)*

The new work represents the depth of feelings of that day. It is a thoughtful reflection of the deep significance of military memorials for family, colleagues and for those who follow in their footsteps.



Gone is the narrow cement pathway leading from Forbes Road to the quiet spot surrounded by tall shrubs. Uneven cement steps were recreated at code height. Interlocking pavers replaced the old cement pathway and create an extended formal patio around the memorial itself. Old and failing shrubs are replaced with designed landscaping of trees, new shrubs and flowers at the memorial and at street level, marking the formerly overlooked entry.



A notable change is the addition of a granite slab on the patio; etched into the granite is a map of the world and, as family and visitors view the names on the memorial in the future, they'll see a mark on the map corresponding to the site of the graduate's death.



There will be 32 indicators scattered across the globe and within the United States. On September 11, 2001, Lt. Gen. Timothy G. Maude, class of 1990, and Col. Canfield Boone, class of 2002, were killed in

attacks on the Pentagon. Col. C. Richard Rescorla, class of 1988, was killed in the World Trade Center, New York City, where the Army Reserve officer worked for Morgan Stanley.

Four names have been added since then: Lt. Gen. Parami Kulatunge of Sri Lanka, class of 2003, killed in his country June 26, 2006; Col. Brian D. Allgood, class of 2002, killed in Iraq Jan. 20, 2007; Col. John M. McHugh, class of 2009, killed in Afghanistan May 18, 2010; and Maj. Gen. J. "Harry" Greene, class of 2003, killed in Afghanistan Aug. 5, 2014.

The landscaping and paving work has been accomplished by Souder's Landscaping of Carlisle.

A class gift to the Army War College is an age-old tradition. Many classes choose to commission a painting, and the resultant gifts appear throughout the academic building. The Class of 2015 sought to create a campus improvement. A "subtle plaque" will identify that this is a gift of the Class of 2015.

Landscapers, right, prepare to plant new trees to frame the Alumni Memorial.



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