

Destined to serve

Fallen soldier, KA brother remembered by friends, family

by Wendy Lovell



Last November the students, faculty and alumni of Woodward Academy in suburban Atlanta gathered to honor the memory of former student Army Lt. Tyler Brown (ΑΣ-Georgia Tech '97). The promising young leader who was committed to his country and serving others was attacked by insurgents on Sept. 14, 2004, in a firefight near Ar Ramadi, Iraq. The 26-year-old Airborne Ranger died within two weeks of his arrival in the war-torn country, leading a 22-man platoon into combat.

Brown had plans on joining the Army's elite Old Guard

in Washington, D.C., upon his return from the Middle East. Family and friends feel certain that Brown would have continued to serve his country by pursuing his love of politics. Now he continues to make his mark on others through his legacy of service, leadership and character.

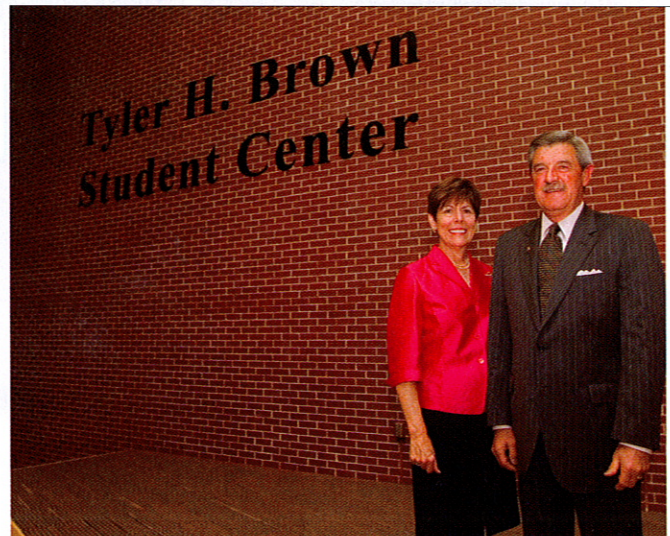
"In all that Tyler accomplished in his short-life, it is evident that he truly lived and died the perfect gentleman as did our spiritual founder, Robert E. Lee," said Bob Hagan (ΔP-Valdosta State '74), a long-time family friend and fraternity brother. "Our motto, Dieu et les Dames—God and Womanhood—was his inspiration in all that he did so that his legacy could serve as an inspiration to us all."

Brown made his mark on the Kappa Alpha chapter at Georgia Tech with his leadership and creativity, starting an etiquette class at KA to ensure his brothers would be prepared for the social challenges of life in and after college. He also served as student body president from 1999 to 2000. A running

trail at Georgia Tech has been named in his honor, as well as a memorial flagpole outside of the Kappa Alpha house.

Brown's friends and family came together after his death to raise funds for the Tyler H. Brown '96 Leadership Speaker Series Endowment Fund, which will bring nationally prominent speakers to Woodward Academy each year to address students

on leadership. This fund also will provide the resources to secure a keynote speaker each year for the annual Woodward Academy Veterans Day program. At the event in November, the new Tyler H. Brown Student Center within the athletic and fitness center was dedicated to remember this bright start whose life was cut much too short. ■■■



Brown's parents, Sally and Carey at the dedication of the newly dedicated student center at Woodward Academy



Clayton Holland

Those serving:

Clayton Holland (EA-Texas A&M '03) is currently serving with Bravo Co, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, under Regimental Combat Team 7 as an Artillery Forward Observer in Nawa District, Helmand Province, Afghanistan. He is attached to an infantry company and is responsible for planning, calling for and

adjusting artillery fire, as well as other fire support assets. He has various other collateral billets, such as Information Operations Officer and CERP Pay Agent, which involves hiring locals to do reconstruction type impact projects that improve their communities. Holland is a former Number II for Epsilon Delta Chapter.

Sgt. Michael Patrick Bonner (ΓH-Florida State '03) of the U.S. Marine Corps is currently stationed at Camp Leatherneck in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan, after having served two tours in Iraq. Bonner enlisted in the Marine Corps in 2005 and is currently an Intelligence Specialist with the 2nd Combat Engineering Battalion. He is due home in May of this year. ■■■