

History of Memorializations at Camp Ripley
---COURT OF HONOR INDUCTION PROGRAM---
(As of October 2021.)

Memorializations began in 1933 as stated in General Orders #5, dated 26 May 1933. "As a perpetual monument in memory of a grateful State and Nation, terrain features on the Camp Ripley Military Reservation, Little Falls, MN, are hereby named in honor of Minnesota citizens, now deceased, who served honorably in our armed forces during time of war." A total of 159 individuals were honored at that time.

Between 1953 and 1965, eight deceased Minnesota Army National Guard personnel were honored with the distinction of being memorialized by having a street or terrain featured with their name.

During the 1980's, a total of 101 individuals were memorialized. This is also when the first "living-retired" individuals began to be honored with the distinction of being memorialized.

In 1988, a regulation was developed to identify and to establish an organized way of considering and nominating individuals to be remembered through memorialization. This is also when the Court of Honor commenced where nine individuals' names were removed from location markers throughout Camp Ripley and etched in stone upon a granite column in Camp Ripley's Court of Honor.

Since 1988, ceremonies were held consistently during the even numbered years.

During the 1990's, a total of 48 individuals were memorialized.

By 1992, five more names were added to the Court of Honor along with five areas or locations being named after individuals.

In 2006, the ceremony name was changed to, "Court of Honor Induction Program".

In January 2009, the regulation was amended to reflect the change of having the ceremonies being held annually.

In 2009, the Memorialization Board added a "Special Recognition" segment to their annual Court of Honor Induction Ceremony to recognize past Service Members for their sacrifices, bravery and historical significance of our organization with a Special Recognition. The following Special Recognitions have been held:

2009: WWII Soldiers of the 175th Field Artillery. These Soldiers became the first American unit to engage the enemy in the European Theatre of Operations. (Four Soldiers.)

2010: Bataan Death March Survivors. (Nine Soldiers.)

2011: 47th Infantry Division Korean War Soldiers. (16 Soldiers.)

2012: 'Tower 5' Camp Ripley New Facility. (Five Soldiers.)

2013: World War II dedication film. Video tribute to all Minnesota Army National Guard units that served during WWII. *(No specific individuals recognized.)*

2014: 99th Infantry Bn (Separate) Tribute dedication film & monument. Thus far, this unit is the only unit to have been formed and trained at Camp Ripley to specifically go to war. They served in Europe 1942-45.

2015: 'LTC Hortense E. McKay MSTC' Camp Ripley New Facility. (One individual.)

2016: Inducted 14 MN ARNG Service Members who died in Combat Theater.

2017: 100th year anniversary of 34th Infantry Division Tribute dedication film & monument.

2018: 100th year anniversary of: #1: End of WWI and #2: U.S. Army Warrant Officer

From 1933 to 2021, a total of 510 individuals have been memorialized at Camp Ripley.