



Concord University Student Veteran's Newsletter

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“We must reject the idea that every time a law’s broken, society is guilty rather than the lawbreaker. It is time to restore the American precept that each individual is accountable for his actions.”

Ronald Reagan

Concord University Veteran's Association hosts Mel Grubb: *Photo Exhibit & War Story Presentation*

By: Ryan Weikle

On Tuesday, October 17th at 3:00 p.m., the Concord Veteran's Association welcomed Mel Grubb, a well-known photographer during World War II and following years after for a presentation on his photographs taken during World War II in the President's Room of the Concord University Library.

Mel Grubb was drafted July 20, 1943 and went to Fort Bragg, NC for his basic training. His training lasted 26 weeks, where he had learned his specialty, field artillery, in addition to his basic combat skills needed for the war. Once he completed his training, he was immediately sent overseas to the South Pacific. He was attached to the 40th Infantry Division 185th Regimental Combat Team 213 Field Artillery Battalion.

His tour included the following schedule: Leave states 3/19/1944 and arrive at New Caledonia 4/3/1944; leave

New Caledonia 4/17/1944 and arrive at Guadalcanal 4/21/1944; leave Guadalcanal 4/30/1944 and arrive at New Britain 5/3/1944; Leave New Britain 12/7/1944 and arrive at Admiralties 12/9/1944; leave Admiralties 12/14/1944 and arrive at New Guinea 12/15/1944; leave New Guinea 12/17/1944 and arrive at Admiralties 12/18/1944; leave Admiralties 1/1/1945 and arrive at Luzon 1/9/1945; leave Luzon 3/15/1945 and arrive at Panay 3/18/1945; leave Panay 3/28/1945 and arrive at Negros 3/29/1945; leave Negros 6/11/1945 and arrive at Panay 6/11/1945; leave Panay 9/17/1945 and arrive at Korea 10/1/1945. He arrived back in the states on December 25, 1945.

During his time of service, 2 years 5 months and 20 days, he entered as a Private First Class (PFC) and was honorably discharged on January 9, 1946 as a First Sergeant (1SG). In his division alone during World War II, 614 were killed, 2,407 were wounded in action, and 134 died of wounds. In an interview with the assistant editor of the Veterans Newsletter, Ryan Weikle, he claimed "the best day of my life was when they dropped the second atom bomb to end the war. We were all happy."

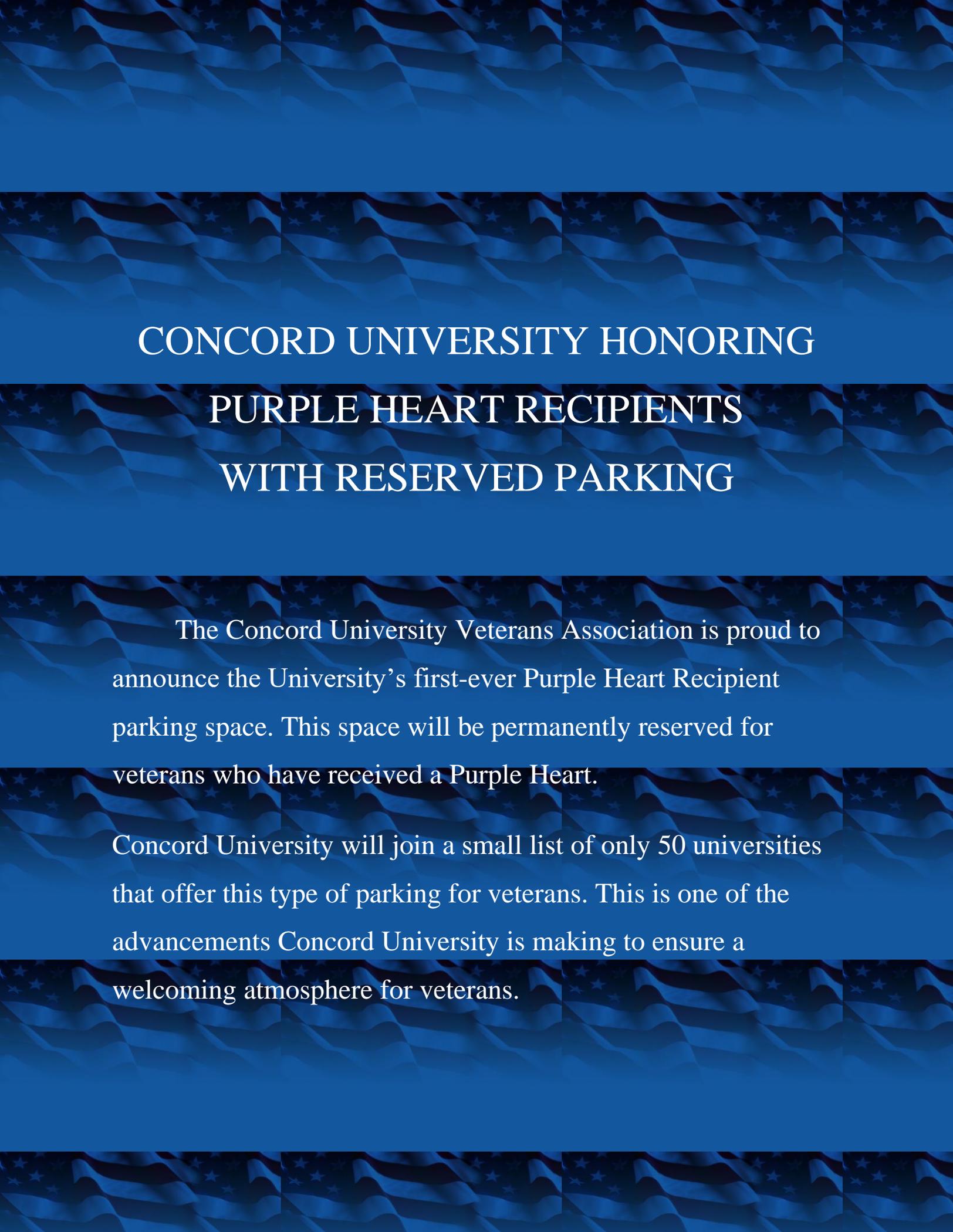
Mel Grubb was very comical in his stories about the war and had a great way of presenting the photographs he had

taken that allowed the audience to feel as if they were there themselves.

The presentation was recorded on Facebook Live on the Concord University Veterans Association Facebook page and had a turnout of roughly 75 viewers online and 25 viewers in the actual presentation.







CONCORD UNIVERSITY HONORING PURPLE HEART RECIPIENTS WITH RESERVED PARKING

The Concord University Veterans Association is proud to announce the University's first-ever Purple Heart Recipient parking space. This space will be permanently reserved for veterans who have received a Purple Heart.

Concord University will join a small list of only 50 universities that offer this type of parking for veterans. This is one of the advancements Concord University is making to ensure a welcoming atmosphere for veterans.

The reserved parking spot is located in the Callaghan Stadium parking lot, near the front entrance to the stadium. It is painted purple and marked with a sign.

“I think that having a Purple Heart parking spot is very significant,” Concord University Veterans Advocate Steven Kennedy said. “When you have a veteran who has sacrificed a part of their life and earned this prestigious award and then they come to Concord as a student or for an event and they see this parking spot, it will really make them feel appreciated.”

“This sends a positive message to veterans, community members, and all people who come to Concord that we honor our veterans, and even in the summer months when visitors are here using our recreation facilities, it shows we care about veterans,” stated Rick Dillon, Vice President of Administration & Associate Dean of Students. Mr. Dillon also said that he loved the parking space, and thought that maybe in the future we could have another.

When asked about if he thought progress has been made by the Veterans Association this semester, Mr. Dillon had this to say.

“Absolutely, I think the leadership this semester and even last semester was great. The student leaders of the group have really driven that train.”



In memory of Dr. John David Smith



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