

Tyler Hall Brown graduated from Woodward Academy in June of 1996. His brother, Brent, and sister, Natalie, who is with us tonight, are also Woodward alumni. Tyler's mother, Sally, joins us in presenting the first LT Tyler Hall Brown Scholarship.

Tyler loved his years at Woodward. He was senior class president and involved in numerous church, campus and community activities during his high school years.

Tyler attended Georgia Tech and received dual degrees in Management and History, Technology and Society in 2001. He was elected president of the student body his senior year. He received his Commission in the United States Army following his completion of ROTC at Tech. He successfully completed Airborne and Ranger Schools at Fort Benning subsequently being deployed to South Korea where he served 13 months as a platoon leader in the 3rd Infantry Division.

In January of last year, he received orders to report to Washington, DC in June where he was to serve in The Old Guard, the Army's most prestigious 3rd Infantry Regiment. In May of last year, his unit received orders for re-deployment to Iraq. Tyler had the choice of remaining with his unit of the soldiers he had trained or to follow his orders and report to The Old Guard.

He chose not to leave his unit and re-deployed to Iraq. Tyler was killed in combat on September 14, 2004. His company commander, Captain Daniel Gade, who was later hit by a roadside bomb and lost his right leg, said of Tyler "He's the finest officer I have ever known".

The Very Reverend Samuel G. Candler, Dean of the Cathedral of Saint Philip and Woodward Academy graduate of 1974, who just moments ago delivered your Baccalaureate Address, was the senior minister at Tyler's funeral at The Cathedral of Saint Phillip on September 22, 2004. Tyler is interred at Arlington Cemetery in Washington, DC.

Someone has said, "In life, necessity forces us, ambition drives us, but passion carries us.....In life necessity forces us, ambition drives us, but passion carriers us."

Tyler did an adequate job with the necessities, pushed the envelope on the ambition, but carried passion better than anyone I have ever known. His family admired him in every respect, but his passion for serving others made Tyler a very special young man. His senior quote in The Phoenix....the famous words of Albert Einstein, "The only life worth living is one in the service of others."

Hundreds of friends of Tyler's family and many we do not know have contributed over \$170,000 to the Georgia Tech Foundation creating The LT Tyler Hall Brown Scholarship Endowment.

In doing what we knew Tyler would want us to do, his family concluded that an annual award of the earnings from the Endowment will be given to a Woodward Academy senior who will matriculate at Georgia Tech in the succeeding Fall Semester. This award will be given annually at this event, the Senior Award's Banquet, in perpetuity, in honor of Tyler.

The criteria for selecting the recipient is based on the balance sheet with which many of you will leave the Academy....a balance sheet heavy on the assets of determination, curiosity, work ethic, and service above self. This award is presented to a young lady who has a boatload of these assets. She is one who has avoided the comfort zone, been a risk taker, and is guided by compelling internal goals in the service of others.

This being the first such award, it is indeed my honor and privilege to present for The Georgia Tech Foundation the inaugural LT Tyler Hall Brown Scholarship to Elizabeth Ward.....

Elizabeth would you and your mother and father, Scott and Lisa, please join Tyler's family on stage to receive the award.....

Elizabeth was readily accepted to Georgia Tech given her outstanding academic record. Tyler's Scholarship is and will be predicated by admission to Georgia Tech. Elizabeth's scholastic achievements were not the primary criteria, however.

Elizabeth states that giving back to her community is a top priority in her life. She is an environmentalist having worked at both Woodward and Busey to organize events emphasizing the importance of recycling and water conservation. She is active in the Trees Atlanta and Adopt-a-Stream programs. She has worked on two Habitat houses and volunteered her time in the Hapeville tutoring project.

For several years, she has led student participation at the High Museum for Woodward's Night at the High. She also is co-captain of the varsity Lacrosse team.

Elizabeth has been involved in her church, Christ the King, since a young age. She is a Eucharistic Minister. She spent several weeks last summer in Mexico ministering in numerous impoverished communities.

Today, I spoke with Monsignor Kenney of Christ the King. Remarks about Elizabeth...

"Elizabeth demonstrates a strong sense of commitment to her faith and moral values making her an excellent role model for people of all ages. Because she exhibits determination, enthusiasm, and courage, she has earned the admiration and respect of her peers. She possesses an abiding faith and a willing heart that is ever ready to serve others."

Elizabeth, you honor Tyler's memory being the special lady that you are. We are so pleased to make the first of Tyler's Scholarship awards to such an outstanding and caring person.

God Bless you and God Bless America.

Thank you