

News and stories

Medal of Honor veterans recognized

Aug 26, 2017

Casey Gentile | [We Are WV Proud](#)

It was a special day for many as the Beckley Veteran Affairs held a ceremony for their medal of Honor Hall. The medal of honor is the highest award a veteran can receive. The hall honors 13 medal of honor award winners from Southern West Virginia who were all recognized today. Honorary speaker Woody Williams is the only living medal of honor award winner in the state. Veteran Edward Simmons said it's an honor to be able to recognize such heroes.

"I just love Woody because he's doing what he can do," Said Simmons.

During his powerful speech Williams highlighted that he is now a representative of those who never got to come home. Stacy Vasquez, the Director of the VA said this event would have never been possible without the decorated war veteran - Woody Williams.

"I just want to say thank you so much to Woody Williams for everything he's done to help us. We could not of done this dedication without him," said Vasquez.

It was a project that took a lot of work and a whole team to complete in a little over a year. Beckley Mayor Rob Rappold said this is a day that the community will never forget.

"For me it's an extremely emotional day. It's a day that I'm filled with pride and honor to honor those who fought so gallantly," said Rappold.