



## Office of Representative Heath Shuler

Representing North Carolina's Eleventh Congressional District

**For Immediate Release**

**November 26, 2007**

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**\*\*\*MEDIA ADVISORY\*\*\***

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### **Asheville VA Medical Center to be Renamed after Pfc. George Tomorrow *Bill by Rep. Shuler Led the Way***

*Washington, D.C.* – Representative Heath Shuler will join members of the George family, officials from the Eastern Band of Cherokee and the Department of Veterans Affairs, and representatives from numerous veterans' service organizations for the official renaming of the Asheville VA Medical Center after Pfc. Charles George.

Pfc. Charles George. Pfc. George was a native of Western North Carolina who was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest honor our nation bestows, for his actions during the Korean War.

Pfc. George was a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and was raised in the Birdtown community of the Qualla Boundary. He attended Cherokee Schools before enlisting in the U.S. Army and being sent to fight in the Korean War. On November 30<sup>th</sup>, 1952, while fighting in Korea, Pfc. George was killed in action. He died saving the lives of those around him.

According to the citation that accompanied his Congressional Medal of Honor, "Pfc. George shouted a warning to one comrade, pushed (another) soldier out of danger, and, with full knowledge of the consequences, unhesitatingly threw himself upon the grenade, absorbing the full blast of the explosion."

- What:** Official renaming of the Asheville VA Medical Center after Pfc. George
- Who:** Rep. Heath Shuler; Members of the George Family; Officials from the Eastern Band of Cherokee and Dept. of VA; Representatives from veterans' service organizations
- When:** 2:00 p.m.  
**November 27, 2007**
- Where:** VA Medical Center  
1100 Tunnel Rd.  
Asheville, NC

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