

CITY OF MONTICELLO
PIATT COUNTY, ILLINOIS
RESOLUTION NO. 2025-35

**A REDEDICATION RESOLUTION RENAMING
ROBERT C. BURKE MEMORIAL PARK TO PFC.
ROBERT C. BURKE MEMORIAL PARK**

WHEREAS, the City of Monticello so desires to rename the Robert C. Burke Memorial Park to Pfc. Robert C. Burke Memorial Park; and

WHEREAS, the City of Monticello so desires to rededicate the park upon completion of the added amenities and site improvements and;

WHEREAS, the City of Monticello so desires to continue honoring Pfc. Robert C. Burke; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Monticello, Piatt County, Illinois, the foregoing recitals being incorporated herein by reference, as follows:

1. In recognition of Pfc. Robert C. Burke's valor and heroic conduct in combat during the Vietnam War and honorably serving as a machine gunner with Company I, 3d Battalion, 27th Marines, 1st Marine Division.
2. In recognition of Pfc. Robert C. Burke receiving the Purple Heart, the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm, the National Defense Service Medal, the Military Merit Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal with Service Star, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the Medal of Honor
3. Effective Date. This Resolution shall be effective forthwith upon its passage and its approval in the manner provided by law.

Passed by the City Council of the City of Monticello, Piatt County, this 27th day of May, 2025, by the following roll-call vote:

AYES: REED, WOODHAM, CARY, LIVELY, YOON, BURRIS, BROADRICK

NAYS: NONE ABSENT: KOON

Approved by the City of Monticello this 21st day of June, 2025.

Landscape Architect / Engineer —



General Contractor —



Thank You to:

Mayor Larry Stoner and City Council members

*Mary Vogt,
Tom Reed,
Ryan Woodham,
Cole Cary,
Andrea Lively,
Rodney Burris,
Tom Pearcy,
Wendall Brock,
Erik Broadrick,
Michael Koon,
Elaine Yoon*

*And Monticello City Staff,
Monticello Public Works Department
And the Monticello High School Industrial Arts class*

**Special thanks to
Marilyn Burke Spurlock
and the Burke family.**



CITY OF
MONTICELLO

Robert C. Burke

November 7, 1949 – May 17, 1968

**MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT
VIETNAM WAR**

Operation Allen Brook

Private First Class
U.S. Marine Corps
Company I, 3d Battalion, 27th Marines
1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF
Le Nam 1, Go Nai Island, Quang Nam Province
(southern), Republic of Vietnam



Painting by CD Anderson

**Pfc. Robert C. Burke
Memorial Park**

601 West Railroad Street Monticello, IL
RE-DEDICATION, June 21, 2025

RE-DEDICATION PROGRAM June 21, 2025

9:00 a.m.

Social – Moon Bean Coffee

10:00 a.m.

Welcome

Monticello Mayor Larry Stoner

Invocation

Pastor Paul Spangler, First Presbyterian Church

Presentation of Colors

3d Battalion, 23d Marines

"Star-Spangled Banner"

Lindsay Coleman

Taps and 3-volley Salute

Monticello Joint Honor Guard, Monticello, IL

Retiring of Colors

3d Battalion, 23d Marines

Speakers:

Regan Deering, State Representative
(88th District)

Nick Nichols, Post Commander Hamm-
Burke American Legion Post 101

Seth Floyd, Post Commander Piatt County
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5346

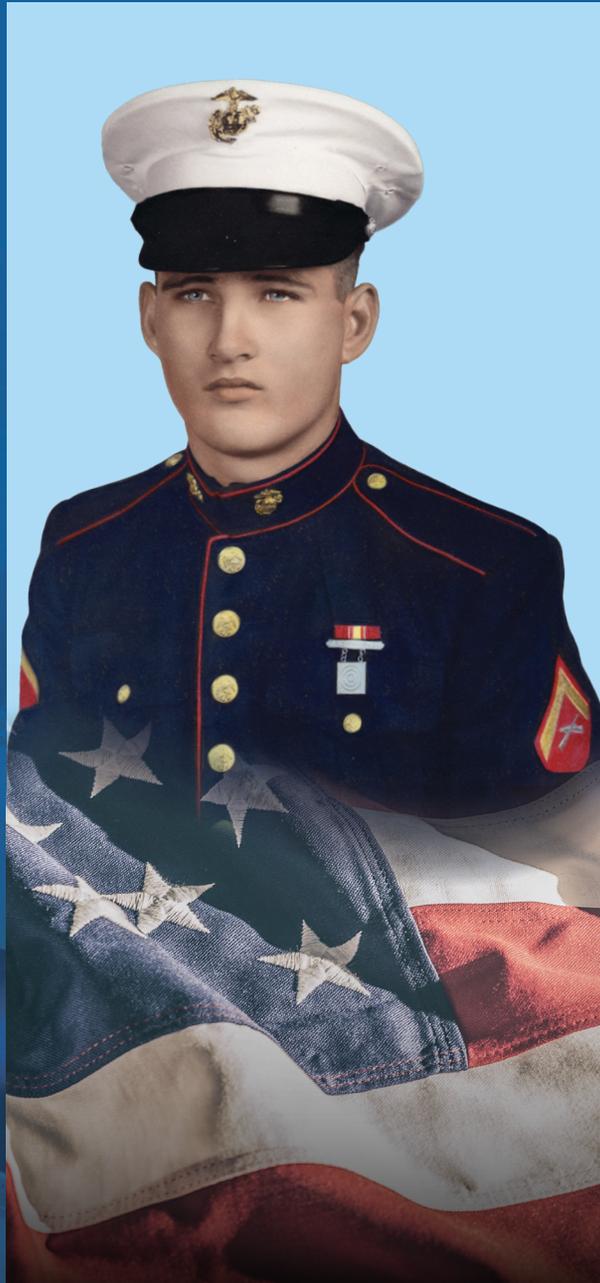
Frederick Curtis Steube, E-4 Corporal
Squad Leader 3rd Battalion, 27th Marine
Regiment, 5th Marine Division Operation
Allen Brook, Republic of Vietnam

Marilyn Burke Spurlock, Sister of Robert Burke

In attendance:

Sally Turner, State Senator (44th District)

Major Alex Irion, USMC Commanding Officer,
Marine Recruiting Station, St. Louis, MO



CITATION

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty for service as a machine gunner with Company I. While on Operation Allen Brook, Company I was approaching a dry river bed with a heavily wooded treeline that borders the hamlet of Le Nam (1), when they suddenly came under intense mortar, rocket-propelled-grenade, automatic-weapons, and small-arms fire from a large, well-concealed enemy force which halted the company's advance and wounded several marines. Realizing that key points of resistance had to be eliminated to allow the units to advance and casualties to be evacuated, Pfc. Burke, without hesitation, seized his machine gun and launched a series of one-man assaults against the fortified emplacements. As he aggressively maneuvered to the edge of the steep river bank, he delivered accurate suppressive fire upon several enemy bunkers, which enabled his comrades to advance and move the wounded marines to positions of relative safety. As he continued his combative actions, he located an opposing automatic-weapons emplacement and poured intense fire into the position, killing three North Vietnamese soldiers as they attempted to flee. Pfc. Burke then fearlessly moved from one position to another, quelling the hostile fire until his weapon malfunctioned. Obtaining a casualty's rifle and hand grenades, he advanced further into the midst of the enemy fire in an assault against another pocket of resistance, killing two more of the enemy. Observing that a fellow marine had cleared his malfunctioning machine gun, he grasped his weapon and moved into a dangerously exposed area and saturated the hostile treeline until he fell mortally wounded. Pfc. Burke's gallant actions upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

Courtesy of the
Congressional Medal of Honor Society