

***“Where the Brave Dare to Tread –
The Bob Arvin Story”***



**Teacher's Guide
and Suggested Lesson Plan**

Biography

The Story of C. Robert "Bob" Arvin is a story of character, honor, perseverance, and courage.

Bob Arvin was the personification of the West Point motto, "Duty, Honor, and Country." Born in a small college town in Michigan, his childhood was one of cowboys, Schwinn bikes, Fourth of July Parades, and playing with his little brother Dave. Bob lived the quintessential boy's life after World War II in his hometown of Ypsilanti. As Bob grew up, he succeeded at every level, from early academics to a myriad of extracurricular activities. He was an Eagle Scout, attended Ypsilanti High School where he was captain of his debate team, quarterback of the football team, president of his senior class, and Valedictorian of his graduating class.

Bob was an alternate selection to the United States Military Academy at West Point, class of 1965. At West Point, he attained the highest honor bestowed on a cadet when he became the First Captain and Brigade Commander. After graduating from West Point in 1965, Bob joined the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, and became an Army Ranger. He was married in 1966 to Merry Lynn Montonye who also was an Ypsilanti Brave when Bob was in high school. In 1967, Lieutenant Arvin reported to his advisory detachment, the 7th Vietnamese Airborne Battalion. In September of '67, Bob was wounded in battle, but a few weeks later, he returned to his outfit. He was killed in action on October 8th 1967 and was posthumously promoted to Captain.

In 1989, The United States Military Academy at West Point officially dedicated the cadet gym as "The Arvin Cadet Gymnasium" in honor of Captain Arvin. In 2005, the gym underwent a \$97 million dollar renovation and was rededicated as the Arvin Cadet Physical Development Center.

Back home, in 2004, the C. Robert Arvin Educational Fund was set up to award college scholarships to area high school students. Since then, over 100 students have received scholarships in Bob's honor.

Objectives

Students will gain knowledge and understand how people in our local communities make significant contributions to our society. Students will learn how one individual from a small middle-American community made a lasting positive impact on many lives, past and present, during a time of national and international turmoil.

Subjects

Local History, U.S. History, government and civics, moral integrity and values

Estimated Time

Two 45-55 minute class periods

Grade Level

7-12 Grades

Warm Up Activity

1. Start class by asking if anyone in class has a relative who attended high school in the 1960's.
2. Ask students what they know about the social and political issues of the 1960's in the U.S.
3. Ask students what they know about West Point Military Academy.
4. Hand out and explain Film Study Worksheet
5. Watch "Where the Brave Dare to Tread – The Bob Arvin Story" as a class. (66 minutes)

Film Study Worksheet for “Where the Brave Dare to Tread – The Bob Arvin Story”

Read the questions before you watch the film so that you will know what to look for while you watch. At breaks during the showing or at the movie's end, you will have an opportunity to make short notes in the spaces provided. If you make notes while the movie is playing, make sure that your note taking doesn't interfere with carefully watching the film. You do not need to make any notes on the worksheet, but after the movie is over, you will be required to fully respond to the questions.

Complete the assignment by answering each question in paragraph form (on a separate sheet of paper. Answers need to be complete and comprehensive, demonstrating that you paid attention to the film and thought about what was shown on the screen. You may use more than one paragraph if necessary. Be sure that the topic sentence of your first paragraph uses key words from the question. All responses should be in complete sentences using proper spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

1. State the title of the film. Then briefly describe what the film is about.

Notes:

2. Identify the people, places, events, or aspects of people, society, or nature that are the focus of this film. Describe and clarify the significance of each.

Notes:
