

## All in the Family: Two PBK Members Graduate 80 Years Apart

Tuesday, January 31, 2017



PBK member Molly Tetrault tells the story of how she



found her great-grandfather's PBK key:

"When my great-grandmother passed away a little over a year ago, my mother and her uncle — my great uncle — were talking about my great-grandfather, Willard G. Bromage, who we called Popper. During the conversation, they realized that both Popper and I had graduated Phi Beta Kappa, eighty years apart. Uncle Sam sent me Popper's Phi Beta Kappa key along with the newspaper clipping announcing the induction ceremony



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and his name card from the induction ceremony. His picture is farthest right in the middle row in the newspaper clipping. Uncle Sam also wrote me a beautiful note about the one time he could remember Popper wearing the Key for a public talk. Because of our similar academic interests, my family decided after my great-grandmother passed away that I should have Popper's diploma and his desk.

"Popper graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1938 with a degree in History and French. He taught history for a year and then joined the army at the outbreak of World War II. After being wounded in Germany, he was a French interpreter for the U.S. Army, and he later worked in insurance after the war. He passed away when I was 16. He encouraged my love of history and politics from a young age — he used to sit me on his knee and tell me stories from the war and sing me "Yankee Doodle Dandy."

WRITTEN [Susan Dumais '88 '02G](#) | College of Liberal Arts

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