

THE CLASS OF 1968 MEMORIAL CEREMONY

The Class of 1968 Memorial Ceremony is conducted this year as part of the 40th Reunion and provides an opportunity for the graduate community to honor and remember those classmates who have passed away.

The first ceremony of this type occurred in 1964 with a memorial service in the Cadet Chapel. In 1965 the ceremony was changed to a formation on the terrazzo, and then returned to the Chapel in 1990 for classes celebrating their 25th or later reunion. This year's Memorial Ceremony will be conducted at the Academy Cemetery for the first time. It will be highlighted by a roll call of deceased classmates. As each deceased class member's name and squadron are called out, a classmate will respond, "Absent Sir."

Following the ceremony classmates and families are invited to honor our classmates who have gone before by visiting their gravesite or memorial marker. This memorial ceremony is a time to embrace the memories of our fallen classmates. In this ceremony, we recognize our departed classmates, and celebrate as a community the experiences that made us the USAFA Class of 1968.



President Phil Pignataro
Class Vice President Ed Eberhart
Secretary Blair Stewart
Treasurer Terry Gruters
Class Historian Duane Mrosla

MEMORIAL CEREMONY OCTOBER 3, 2008

Invocation	Carl Janssen(Memorial Committee)
Flag Lowered to Half Mast	Cadet Honor Guard
High Flight	In the Stairwell
Message	Ed Eberhart (Class Vice President)
Lord Guard and Guide the Men Wi	ho Fly In the Stairwell
Roll Call	Blair Stewart (Class Secretary)
	& Duane Mrosla (Class Historian)
Gun Salute	Cadet Honor Guard
Taps	Academy Band Bugler
Final Comments	Steve McPhail (Memorial Committee)

Following Taps, next of kin are invited to place flower arrangements at the gravesite or memorial marker of their loved one. Remaining arrangements may be placed by any classmate who so desires. Please place arrangements at the top right corner of marker or on the ground in front of the Columbarium.

Buses will depart the cemetary 30-60 minutes after service to allow grads and families time to visit gravesites.

HIGH FLIGHT

Oh, I have slipped the surly bonds of earth And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings; Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth Of sun-split clouds—and done a hundred things You have not dreamed of—wheeled and soared and swung High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung My eager craft through footless halls of air. Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue I've topped the windswept heights with easy grace Where never lark, or even eagle flew. And, while with silent, lifting mind I've trod The high untrespassed sanctity of space, Put out my hand, and touched the face of God.

–John Gillespie Magee Jr. (1922-1941)

LORD GUARD AND GUIDE THE MEN WHO FLY

Lord guard and guide the men who fly Through the great spaces of the sky; Be with them traversing the air In darkening storms or sunshine fair.

You who support with tender might The balanced birds in all their flight, Lord of the tempered winds, be near, That, having you, they know no fear.

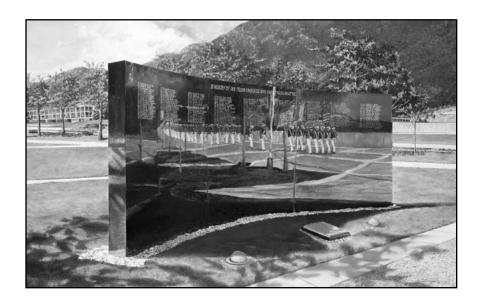
Control their minds with instinct fit Whene'er, adventuring they quit The firm security of land; Grant steadfast eye and skillful hand.

Aloft in solitudes of space, Uphold them with your saving grace. O God, protect the men who fly Through lonely ways beneath the sky. Amen.

-Mary C. D. Hamilton

TAPS

Day is done, gone the sun, From the hills, from the lake, From the sky. All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.



THE WAR MEMORIAL

The War Memorial stands on the terrazzo on the north end of the Air Gardens and faces the American flag for which the deceased graduates listed on the memorial died. The memorial is a striking curved monolith constructed of three 7'x21' slabs of black starlite granite. The inscription "In memory of our fellow graduates who have fallen in battle ..." is a simple but eloquent statement of why a name is inscribed on the memorial. The criteria for being remembered on the War Memorial are:

- 1. Graduates who died from direct hostile action.
- 2. Graduates who died within an area of conflict as the result of an incident which was in direct support of the conflict.
- 3. Graduates who died outside an area of conflict while directly supporting the activities within that area will be considered on an individual basis by the Board of Directors of the Association of Graduates.

At the dedication ceremony in 1970, Brigadier General Robin Olds, Commandant of Cadets, brought the essence of the memorial forcefully home with the following words:

This monolith of simple beauty contains the names of graduates of the Air Force Academy who have given their lives in combat. Each was a gallant man, devoted to his country and proud of his heritage. Each died bravely, as one's country sometimes calls upon her sons to do. Remember these names. Honor them. They are a part of you, the Wing. They represent your past, as you today represent our future. Reflect on their example of selfless devotion to duty and gain courage so that when you face your test, you may add honor and glory to the annals of the Wing—and of the Air Force—and of our country.

Eleven members of the Class of 1968 are among the 170 names on the War Memorial.

Located north of the Class of '59 Challenge Bridge at Doolittle Hall is a replica of the War Memorial. The replica, a gift from the Class of 1970, was completed and set in place in May 2004.

Memorial Locations – Cadets and graduates may be memorialized in several different locations at the Academy. The names of those who die on active duty are placed on plaques just outside the Cadet Catholic Chapel. Names of other deceased graduates may also be found on the plaque at the Memorial Tree Grove located just East of Doolittle Hall, in the memorial section of the Academy cemetery, or on a memorial paver at Doolittle Hall. Graduates who died as a result of combat action are memorialized on the War Memorial.



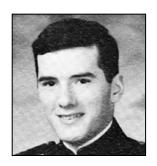
JOHN THOMAS GRIFFIN
Cadet Third Class
9th Squadron
d. 21 March 1966
Auto accident/Page, AZ
Memorialized in Sec 8



DAVID ALAN STEWART
Second Lieutenant
2nd Squadron
d. 29 July 1968
Bicycle-auto accident/Los Angeles, CA
Memorialized in Sec 8



KENNETH GEORGE ORVIS
Second Lieutenant
13th Squadron
d. 17 July 1969
T-38 crash/Wichita, KS
Memorialized in Sec 8



JOHN EVERETT DUFFY*

Captain

14th Squadron
d. 4 April 1970
O-2A crash/South Vietnam
Memorialized in Sec 8



THERON CARL FEHRENBACH II*

First Lieutenant

2nd Squadron
d. 6 April 1970

C-7A crash/South Vietnam

Memorialized in Sec 8



Pirst Lieutenant
17th Squadron
d. 10 April 1970
F-100 crash/near Luke AFB, AZ
Sec 3 Row E Grave 41



JOHN LESLIE RYDER*

Captain
6th Squadron
d. 9 June 1970
O-1F crash/South Vietnam
Memorialized in Sec 8



RUSSELL EARL VORIS*
First Lieutenant
1st Squadron
d. 24 June 1970
A-37B crash/Cambodia
Memorialized in Sec 8



ELMON CLEVELAND CAUDILL II*

First Lieutenant

12th Squadron
d. 29 November 1970
C-123 crash/South Vietnam
Sec 3 Row A Grave 23



CHARLES LOUIS KOLLENBERG*
First Lieutenant
4th Squadron
d. 29 November 1970
C-123 crash/South Vietnam
Memorialized in Sec 8



WILLIS GRANT UHLS*

Captain

22nd Squadron

d. 11 February 1971

O-1 crash/Laos

Sec 3 Row E Grave 32



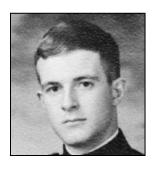
JAMES DENNIS HOPPE
First Lieutenant
12th Squadron
d. 18 March 1971
U-10 crash/Coast of Costa Rica
Memorialized in Sec 8



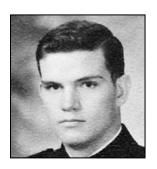
WALTER HARRISON SIGAFOOS III*

Captain

3rd Squadron
d. 25 April 1971
F-4 crash/Laos
Memorialized in Sec 8



Captain
4th Squadron
d. 18 June 1971
C-135 crash/Pacific Ocean
Memorialized in Sec 8



James Edward Alexander

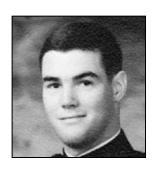
Captain

25th Squadron

d. 16 June 1972

T-38 crash/Reese AFB, TX

Sec 3 Row E Grave 44



PAUL VERNON JACKSON III*

Captain

5th Squadron
d. 24 December 1972
O-1F crash/Laos
Memorialized in Sec 8



TED BRIAN HALLENBECK*

Captain

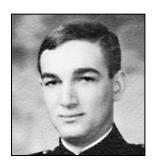
1st Squadron
d. 5 February 1973
AU-23 crash/Thailand
Sec 3 Row D. Grave 70



ZACKARY STIDMON
Captain
11th Squadron
d. 11 December 1973
F-106 crash/Homestead AFB, FL
Memorialized in Sec 8

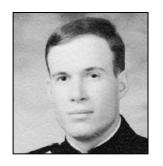


STEPHEN RAY ROSEMAN
Captain
3rd Squadron
d. 12 December 1974
B-52 crash/Anderson AFB, Guam
Memorialized in Sec 8



Captain

22nd Squadron
d. 7 October 1975
F-111 crash/near Nellis AFB, NV
Sec 3 Row C Grave 34



EDWARD ALLEN GREENE II

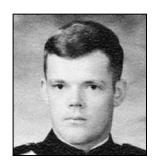
18th Squadron
d. 24 October 1975
Cancer/Los Angeles, CA
Sec 3 Row C Grave 70



Captain
18th Squadron
d. 5 October 1977
F-111 crash/Annweiler, Germany
Memorialized in Sec 8



DALE FOY STEPHENS
Captain
23rd Squadron
d. 1 November 1977
F-4 crash/near Kadena AB, Japan
Memorialized in Sec 8



JAMES EDWARD PUEPPKE
Captain
20th Squadron
d. 26 November 1977
Light aircraft crash/Tucson, AZ
Memorialized in Sec 8



RICHARD FREY
12th Squadron
d. 14 February 1980
Heart attack/Apple Valley, CA
Sec 3 Row A Grave 27



ARTHUR LLOYD MOXON

Major

17th Squadron
d. 9 January 1981

A-10 crash/Donnanook Range,
Lincolnshire, England
Sec 3 Row B Grave 57



WILLIAM FRANKLIN GEORGE II

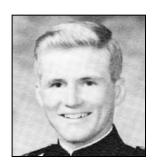
Major

4th Squadron

d. 19 January 1983

F-16 crash/Great Salt Lake, UT

Sec 3 Row A Grave 26



ROBERT ALAN SHUMWAY JR.

Major

8th Squadron
d. 29 June 1983

Heart attack/Rapid City, SD
Sec 3 Row B Grave 38



WALLACE BLAINE SAWYER JR.*

29th Squadron
d. 5 October 1986
Civilian C-123 crash/Nicaragua
Memorialized in Sec 8

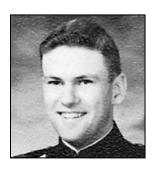


ARMANDO PONCE CASTRO

Lieutenant Colonel

10th Squadron
d. 18 March 1987

Bomb Explosion/Philippine Military Academy
Memorialized in Sec 8



KIMMEL ROSS ANDERSON
23rd Squadron
d. 1 November 1987
Cancer/Tulsa, OK
Memorialized in Sec 8



MICHAEL ROGER CARTWRIGHT

24th Squadron
d. 7 April 1989

Illness/Salt Lake City, UT
Sec 6 Row A Grave 8



ROBERT MICHAEL LINSMAYER JR.

Lieutenant Colonel

28th Squadron
d. 19 March 1991
Ski accident/Steamboat Springs, CO
Sec 6 Row B Grave 26



MARTIN FLOYD EGGERT

29th Squadron
d. 12 May 1991

Heart attack/Fayetteville, NC

Memorialized in Sec 8



IAN JAMESON DUNCAN
26th Squadron
d. 24 May 1992
Liver transplant/Wichita, KS
Memorialized in Sec 8

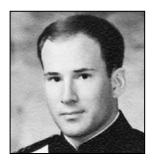


CRAIG CECIL SQUIER

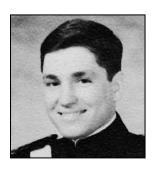
19th Squadron
d. 26 August 1992
Heart attack/Binghamton, NY
Memorialized in Sec 8



FRANK TIPTON BIRK
Colonel (Ret.)
4th Squadron
d. 2 August 1993
Aircraft accident/Manching, Germany
Sec 3 Row A Grave 40



JAMES LYLE MEYER
7th Squadron
d. 28 December 1993
Auto accident/Sacramento, CA
Memorialized in Sec 8



JOHN JEFFERSON WATKINS JR.
30th Squadron
d. 29 May 1996
Private plane crash/Malvern, AR
Memorialized in Sec 8



GERALD WILLIAM BROWN JR.
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.)
28th Squadron
d. 18 February 1997
Heart attack/Lyons Falls, NY
Sec 6 Row C Grave 65



Captain (Ret.)
13th Squadron
d. 29 November 1997
Extended illness/Lucedale, MS
Memorialized in Sec 8



ROBERT JON HAGER
Colonel (Ret.)
11th Squadron
d. 15 October 1999
Heart surgery/Houston, TX
Memorialized in Sec 8



WILLIAM EDGAR GREGORY JR.
9th Squadron
d. 24 November 1999
Heart attack/Fairfax, VA
Memorialized in Sec 8

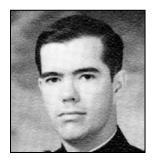


JOSEPH CLARENCE HEDRICK JR.

22nd Squadron
d. 18 July 2001
Blood disease/Sacramento, CA
Memorialized in Sec 8



ROBERT OWEN PULVER
Captain
17th Squadron
d. 10 July 2003
Unknown
Memorialized in Sec 8



JOHN ARTHUR MACKAY
Major (Ret.)
13th Squadron
d. 29 March 2004
Extended illness/Ft. Walton Beach, FL
Memorialized in Sec 8



PETER JACOB MAREK JR.
10th Squadron
d. 29 April 2004
Unknown/Colorado
Memorialized in Sec 8



EDWIN LAWRENCE MERIDETH JR.

Major (Ret.)

13th Squadron

d. 14 October 2004

Heart attack/Mililani, HI

Memorialized in Sec 8



CARL HAZARD RICHARDSON JR.

10th Squadron
d. 5 January 2006
Stroke/Dallas, TX
Memorialized in Sec 8



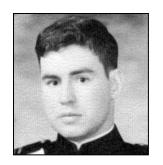
JONATHAN G. RAND
30th Squadron
d. 13 January 2006
Cancer/Menifee, CA
Memorialized in Sec 8



JONATHAN ANDREW MCCREIGHT
(PENRY)
25th Squadron
d. 14 May 2006
Unknown
Memorialized in Sec 8



RUSSELL CRAIG WALKER
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.)
24th Squadron
d. 9 July 2006
Unknown/Beavercreek, OH
Memorialized in Sec 8



STEPHEN WORTH THOMSON
8th Squadron
d. 11 October 2006
Unknown/Edwardsville, IL
Memorialized in Sec 8

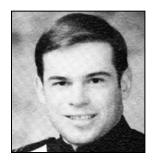


JAMES PATRICK LYONS III

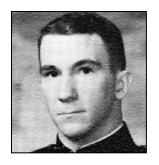
11th Squadron
d. 25 November 2006
Cancer/Punxsutawney, PA
Columbarium



JOHN EDWARD HAYDEN
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.)
27th Squadron
d. 2 December 2006
Heart attack/Salt Lake City, UT
Sec 6 Row E Grave 75



WILLIAM LARRY PIGG
9th Squadron
d. 16 December 2007
Auto accident/Albuquerque, NM
Memorialized in Sec 8



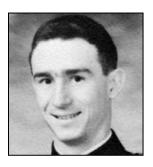
WALTER DALLAS CURTISS

27th Squadron d. 4 March 2008 Cancer/Davis, CA Sec 6 Row F Grave 9



JOHN STANLEY COBB

2nd Squadron d. 11 April 2008 Unknown Memorialized in Sec 8



JOHN P. KOSTIUK

16th Squadron d.10 May 2008 Unkown/ Pitman NJ Memorialized in Sec 8

David Griffin and Dan Tedford/Tedstrom may have been members of our class who we believe died as basic cadets. However, the Academy and AOG have only incomplete and inconsistent information. If you have any direct information, such as, they were in your summer squadron or a roomate, please let us know.

The following members of the Class of 1968 are buried at the Academy Cemetery:

Alexander, James	Sec 3	Row E	Grave 44
Birk, Frank	Sec 3	Row A	Grave 40
Bowles, Ralph	Sec 3	Row C	Grave 34
Brown, Gerald	Sec 6	Row C	Grave 65
Cartwright, Micheal	Sec 6	Row A	Grave 8
Caudill, Elmon	Sec 3	Row A	Grave 23
Curtiss, Walter	Sec 6	Row F	Grave 9
Frey, Richard	Sec 3	Row A	Grave 27
George, William	Sec 3	Row A	Grave 26
Greene II, Edward	Sec 3	Row C	Grave 70
Haas, Dennis	Sec 3	Row E	Grave 41
Hallenbeck, Ted	Sec 3	Row D	Grave 70
Hayden, John	Sec 6	Row E	Grave 75
Linsmayer, Robert	Sec 6	Row B	Grave 31
Lyons, James		Columbarium	
Moxon, Arthur	Sec 3	Row B	Grave 57
Shumay, Robert	Sec 3	Row B	Grave 38
Uhls, Willis	Sec 3	Row E	Grave 32

The following members of the Class of 1968 are memorialized in Section 8 at the Academy Cemetery:

Meyer, James Orvis, Kenneth Pigg, Larry Pueppke, James Pulver, Robert Rand, Jonathan Reid, Stephen Richardson, Carl Roseman, Stephen Ryder, John Sawyer, Wallace Sigafoos, Walter Squier, Craig Stephens, Dale Stewart, David Stidmon, Zackary Thomson, Stephen Voris, Russell Walker, Russell Watkins, John

