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)
Officer of the Class of 1968

President  Philip J. Pignataro
Vice President  Ralph E. Eberhart
Secretary  Duncan B. Stewart
Treasurer  Terence J. Gruters
Historian  Duane F. Mrosla

Memorial Ceremony
Sequence of Events

October 10, 2003

Organ prelude
Invocation
*America the Beautiful*
Scripture Reading
Message
*Lord Guard and Guide the Men Who Fly*
Roll Call, Deceased Classmates
*High Flight*
Benediction
Postlude
The Class of 1968 Memorial Ceremony

The Class of 1968 Memorial Ceremony is conducted this year as part of the 35th 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, conducted in the Cadet Chapel, will be highlighted by a roll call of deceased classmates. As each deceased class member’s name and squadron are called out, a cadet responds, “Absent, sir.” Following the roll call the ceremony will be closed by a moment of silence, and a rendering of High Flight.

Two of ’68’s ordained ministers, Hal Higley and Geoff Gorsuch, will preside at this ceremony, and ’68’s Cadet Wing Commanders, Ed Eberhart and Carl McPherson, will read the names of our deceased brothers.
**One More Roll**

We toast our hearty Comrades  
Who have fallen from the skies,  
And were gently caught by God’s own hands  
To be with Him on high.

To dwell among the soaring clouds  
They’ve known so well before,  
From victory roll to tail chase  
At Heaven’s very door.

As we fly among them there  
We’re sure to hear their plea,  
Take care my friend, watch your six,  
And do one more roll for me.

—Commander Jerry Coffee  
in Hanoi, 1968

**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
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 those 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 criteria for a name to be included on the memorial. The actual determination of those graduates who are remembered on the War Memorial follows the circumstances listed below:

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.

There are presently 163 graduates listed on the War Memorial, including 10 graduates of the Class of 1968.
The War Memorial—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.
James Edward Alexander
Captain
25th Squadron

Kimmel Ross Anderson

Frank Tipton Birk
Colonel (Ret.)
4th Squadron

Ralph David Bowles
Captain
22nd Squadron

Gerald William Brown, Jr.
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.)
28th Squadron

Byron Claire Burnett
Captain
4th Squadron
Michael Roger Cartwright
24th Squadron

Armando Ponce Castro
Lieutenant Colonel
Philippine Air Force
10th Squadron

Elmon Cleveland Caudill, II
First Lieutenant
12th Squadron

John Everett Duffy
Captain
14th Squadron

Ian Jameson Duncan
26th Squadron

Martin Floyd Eggert
29th Squadron
Theron Carl Fehrenbach, II
First Lieutenant
2nd Squadron

Richard Frey
Captain (Ret.)
12th Squadron

William Franklin George, II
Major
4th Squadron

Edward Allen Green, II
18th Squadron

William Edgar Gregory, Jr.
9th Squadron

John Thomas Griffin
C3C
9th Squadron
Dennis Bauer Haas  
First Lieutenant  
17th Squadron

Robert Jon Hager  
Colonel (Ret.)  
11th Squadron

Ted Brian Hallenbeck  
Captain  
1st Squadron

Joseph Clarence Hedrick, Jr.  
22nd Squadron

James Dennis Hoppe  
First Lieutenant  
12th Squadron

Paul Vernon Jackson, III  
Captain  
5th Squadron
CHARLES LOUIS KOLLENBERG
First Lieutenant
4th Squadron

ROBERT MICHAEL LINSMAYER, JR.
Lieutenant Colonel
28th Squadron

DAVIS GUY McADORY
Captain (Ret.)
13th Squadron

JAMES LYLE MEYER
7th Squadron

ARTHUR LLOYD MOXON
Major
17th Squadron

KENNETH GEORGE ORVIS
Second Lieutenant
13th Squadron
James Edward Pueppke
Captain
20th Squadron

Stephen Horsman Reid
Captain
18th Squadron

Stephen Ray Roseman
Captain
3rd Squadron

John Leslie Ryder
Captain
6th Squadron

Wallace Blaine Sawyer, Jr.
29th Squadron

Robert Alan Shumway, Jr.
Major
8th Squadron
WALTER HARRISON SIGAFOOSE, III  
Captain  
3rd Squadron

CRAIG CECIL SQUIER  
19th Squadron

DALE FOY STEPHENS  
Captain  
23rd Squadron

DAVID ALAN STEWART  
Second Lieutenant  
2nd Squadron

ZACKARY STIDMON  
Captain  
11th Squadron

DAN BERNARD TEDFORD  
C4C  
8th Squadron  
photo not available
**Willis Grant Uhls**  
First Lieutenant  
22nd Squadron

**Russell Earl Voris**  
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1st Squadron

**John Jefferson Watkins, Jr.**  
30th Squadron
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