An American flag is shown waving on a flagpole, set against a bright, hazy sky with a low sun. The flag's stars and stripes are clearly visible, and the sun's glow creates a soft, golden light across the scene.

**UNITED STATES
AIR FORCE ACADEMY**

CLASS OF 1975

MEMORIAL CEREMONY

OCTOBER 9, 2015



THE CLASS OF 1975 MEMORIAL CEREMONY

The Class of 1975 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, 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 classmate responds, "Absent, sir." Following the roll call, the ceremony will close by a moment of silence, the Air Force hymn and benediction.

This memorial ceremony is dedicated to those members of the Class of 1975 who have gone before us. It 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 USAF Academy Class of 1975 and carried forward into our lives to this day.



OFFICERS OF THE CLASS OF 1975

President	Jim Carlson
Scribe	Jeff Chappell
Treasurer	Scott Hente
Reunion Chairman	Jeffrey L. Hackett

MEMORIAL CEREMONY SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

OCTOBER 9, 2015

Organ Prelude

Invocation..... Larry Bryant

America the Beautiful

Welcome.....Bentley Rayburn

Scripture.....Bruce Mitchell

MessageBill Murray

Roll Call..Jim Carlson, Michael Anderson, Squadron Representatives

Moment of Silence and Taps

Lord Guard and Guide the Men Who Fly

Benediction

Organ Postlude

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

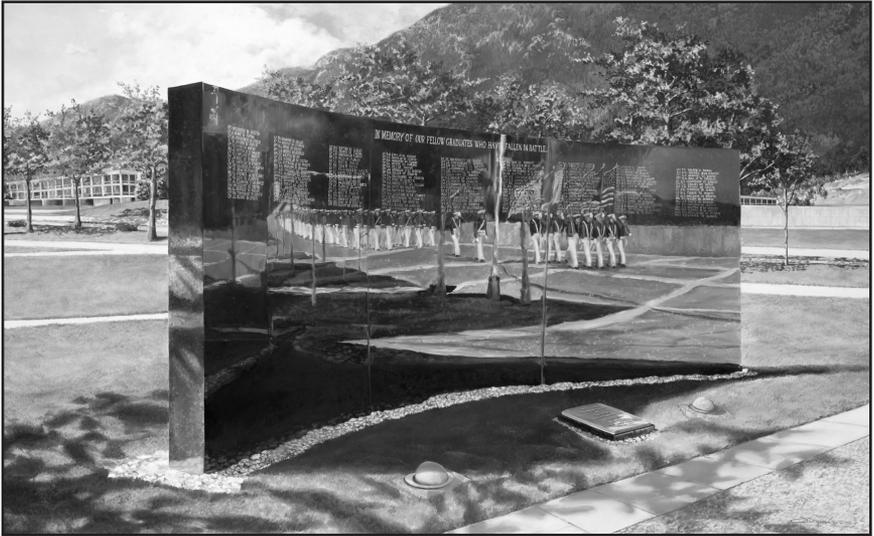
Lord guard and guide the men who fly
Through the great spaces of the sky;
Be with them traversing the air
In darkening storms or sunshine fair.

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 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.

There are presently 182 graduates listed 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.

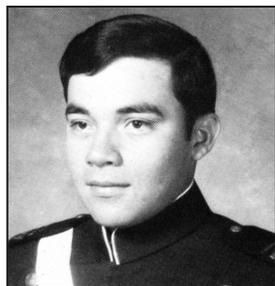
Memorial Locations – Cadets and graduates may be memorialized in several different locations at the Academy. The names of those who die on active duty are placed on plaques just outside the Cadet Catholic Chapel. Names of other deceased graduates may also be found on the plaque at the Memorial Tree Grove 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.

For the 40th reunion, the graves of USAFA '75 GBNF at the Academy cemetery have been decorated with American flags and class coins at the markers. A searchable electronic directory of specific grave locations is available in the small building at the southwest corner of the cemetery, provided by the AOG.

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)



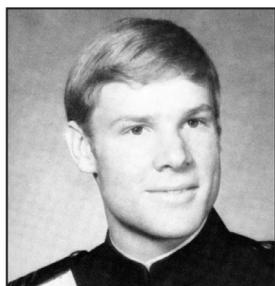
**JOSE RICARDO
CASTRO-AGUIRRE**
Lieutenant Colonel
3rd Squadron
d. 16 April 2006



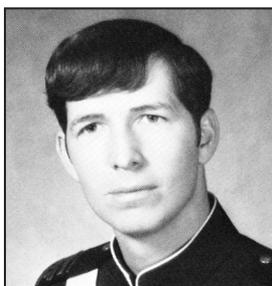
**PATRICK J.
ASH**
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.)
10th Squadron
d. 16 February 2011



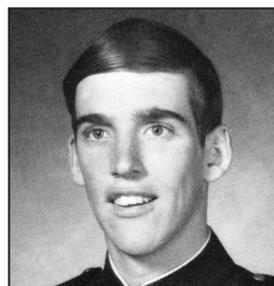
**JOSEPH CHRISTIAN
BENNER**
Major
38th Squadron
d. 10 December 1987



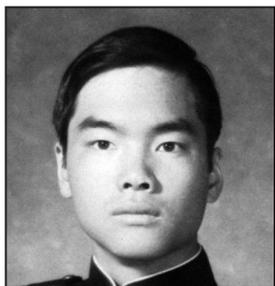
**THOMAS
WORTHINGTON
BRUNDIGE IV**
Captain
4th Squadron
d. 15 December 1981



**MICHAEL EUGENE
COX**
Captain
10th Squadron
d. 22 May 1985



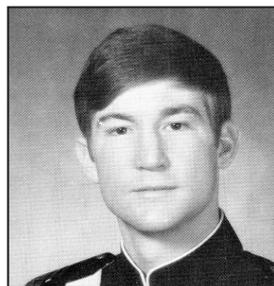
**JOHN BRUCE
DODDS**
39th Squadron
d. 28 March 1983



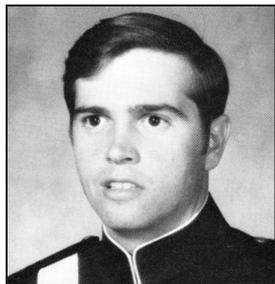
**MATTHEW K.
FONG**
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.)
29th Squadron
d. 1 June 2011



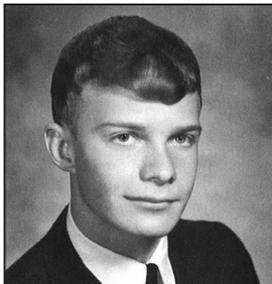
**THOMAS ALLEN
HARTWELL**
40th Squadron
d. 26 August 1993



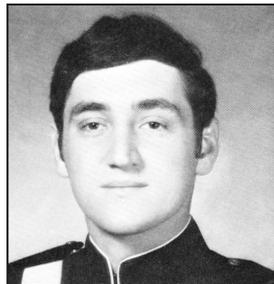
**SAMUEL D.
HOLLINS, SR**
Major (Ret.)
16th Squadron
d. 3 March 2013



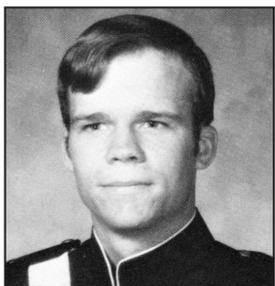
**KENNETH LYNN
HOSSLER**
Captain
29th Squadron
d. 29 September 1981



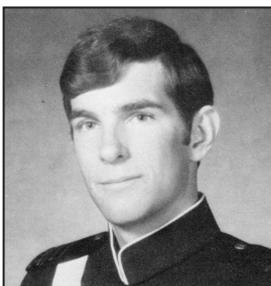
**ROBERT KEVIN
HOWARD**
Cadet 4th Class
9th Squadron
d. 11 October 1971



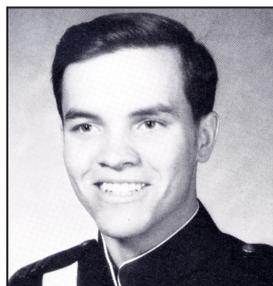
**WALTER RAYMOND
JOHNSON JR.**
First Lieutenant
16th Squadron
d. 14 July 1977



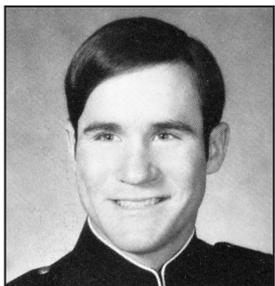
**PHILIP RANDALL
JONES**
Second Lieutenant
36th Squadron
d. 14 December 1976



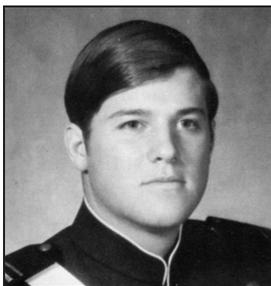
**ROBERT A.
KNAUFF**
Major General (Ret.)
28th Squadron
d. 3 May 2014



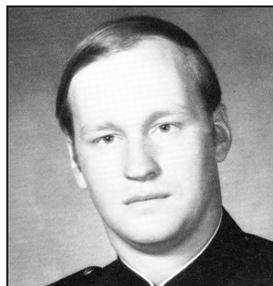
**JACK R.
KUMMERFELD**
Major (Ret.)
7th Squadron
d. 19 October 2004



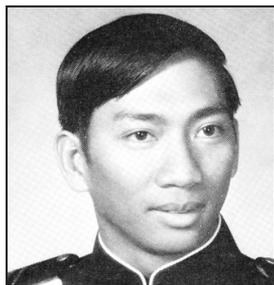
**WILLIAM EVAN
LINN**
2nd Squadron
d. 2 March 1991



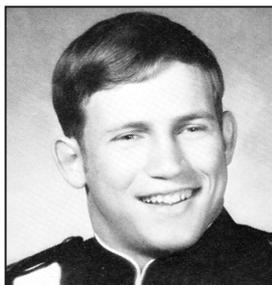
**DAVID K.
LIVINGSTON**
Major (Ret.)
19th Squadron
d. 14 December 2013



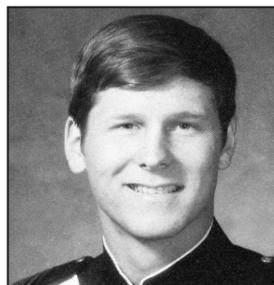
**BRAD ALLEN
LOGAN**
Captain
10th Squadron
d. 13 March 1980



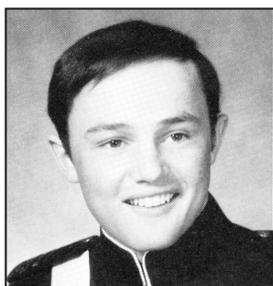
**EDWIN PAMITTAN
MALLO**
Captain (Ret.)
15th Squadron
d. 19 November 1985



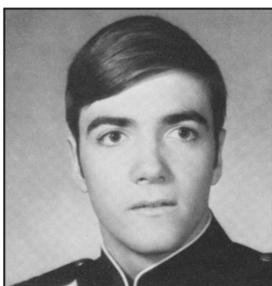
**MICHAEL JAMES
MARK**
First Lieutenant
38th Squadron
d. 6 July 1978



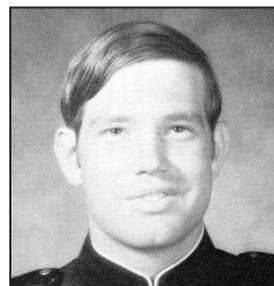
**DAVID CRAIG
MCCARTHY**
Major
6th Squadron
d. 7 March 1986



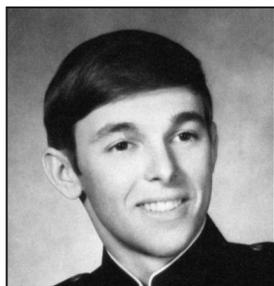
**MICHAEL GLEN
MCVAY**
Major
36th Squadron
d. 31 October 1985



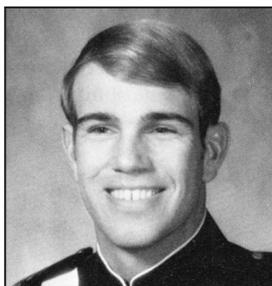
**CHARLES WALTER
NYSTROM JR.**
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.)
7th Squadron
d. 14 August 2008



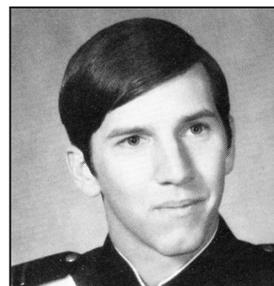
**JOHN PATRICK
OWENS**
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.)
11th Squadron
d. 29 November 1994



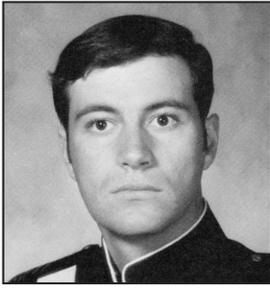
**PHIL L.
PEARCE**
9th Squadron
d. 30 June 2011



**CARL IVOR
PETERSON**
8th Squadron
d. 26 September 1996



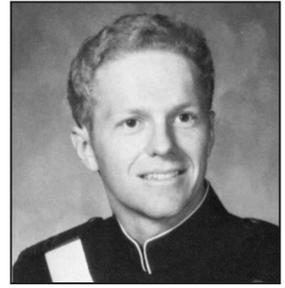
**KERRY ROGER
PUTT**
Captain
1st Squadron
d. 8 October 1980



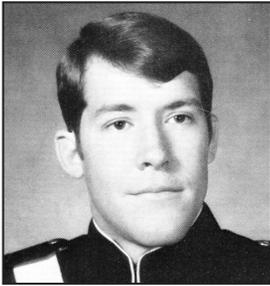
**LAWRENCE
KESTHER RIDGE**
Second Lieutenant
20th Squadron
d. 10 December 1976



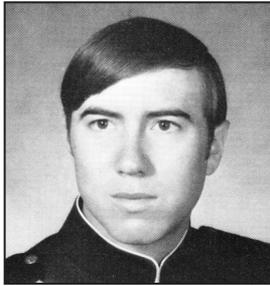
**CHARLES FRANCIS
RIORDAN III**
Major (Ret.)
28th Squadron
d. 27 February 2005



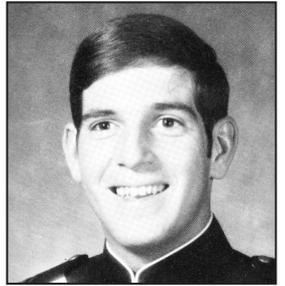
**MARK L.
SHOPE, MD**
34th Squadron
d. 9 October 2012



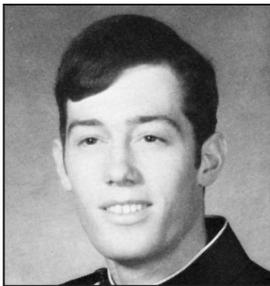
**JAMES MARCUS
SIMONITSCH**
First Lieutenant
26th Squadron
d. 4 May 1978



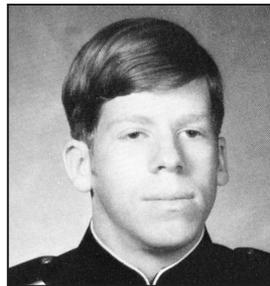
**MICHAEL ALAN
SIMPSON**
Captain
23rd Squadron
d. 21 January 1981



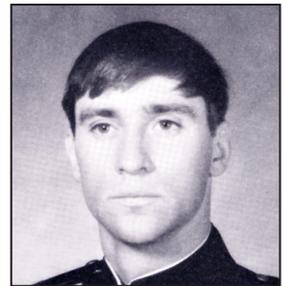
**JOHN MICHAEL
STEWARD**
Lieutenant Colonel
7th Squadron
d. 17 December 1993



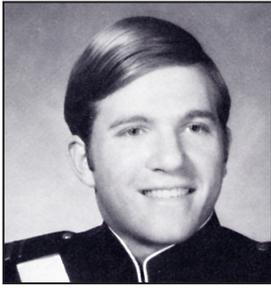
**PETER PAUL
STRUNK**
Major ANG
25th Squadron
d. 11 April 2003



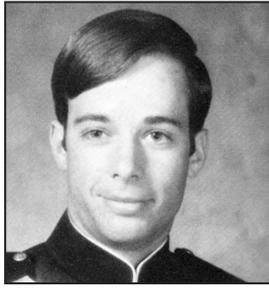
**THOMAS STORY
SUMMERS**
26th Squadron
d. 8 October 1992



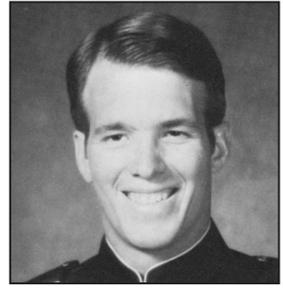
**WILLIAM FRANK
THOMPSON**
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.)
8th Squadron
d. 4 February 2005



**JON ROBERT
TURNER**
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.)
USAFR
10th Squadron
d. 10 March 2005



**JOHN EDMUND
VANDEN DRIES JR.**
Colonel (Ret.)
21st Squadron
d. 1 February 2002



**JOHN THOMAS
WOLTER**
30th Squadron
d. 19 December 2008

CLASS OF 1975 CHRONOLOGICAL LISTING

SQ NAME

09 Robert K. Howard
20 Lawrence K. Ridge
36 Philip R. Jones
16 Walter R. Johnson Jr.
26 James M. Simonitsch
38 Michael J. Mark
10 Brad A. Logan
01 Kerry R. Putt
23 Michael A. Simpson
29 Kenneth L. Hossler
04 Thomas W. Brundige IV
39 John B. Dodds
10 Michael E. Cox
36 Michael G. McVay
15 Edwin P. Mallo
06 David C. McCarthy
38 Joseph C. Benner
02 William E. Linn
26 Thomas S. Summers
40 Thomas A. Hartwell
07 John M. Steward
11 John P. Owens
08 Carl I. Peterson

DATE

11 Oct 71
10 Dec 76
14 Dec 76
14 Jul 77
4 May 78
6 Jul 78
13 Mar 80
8 Oct 80
21 Jan 81
29 Sep 81
15 Dec 81
28 Mar 83
22 May 85
31 Oct 85
19 Nov 85
7 Mar 86
10 Dec 87
2 Mar 91
8 Oct 92
26 Aug 93
17 Dec 93
29 Nov 94
26 Sep 96

CHRONOLOGICAL LISTING CONTINUED

SQ	NAME	DATE
21	John E. Vanden Dries Jr.	1 Feb 02
25	Peter P. Strunk	11 Apr 03
07	Jack R. Kummerfeld	19 Oct 04
08	William F. Thompson	4 Feb 05
28	Charles F. Riordan III	27 Feb 05
10	Jon R. Turner	10 Mar 05
03	Jose R. Castro-Aguirre	16 Apr 06
07	Charles W. Nystrom Jr.	14 Aug 08
30	John T. Wolter	19 Dec 08
10	Patrick J. Ash	16 Feb 11
29	Matthew K. Fong	1 Jun 11
09	Phil L. Pearce	30 Jun 11
34	Mark L. Shope, MD	9 Oct 12
16	Samuel D. Hollins, Sr	3 Mar 13
19	David K. Livingston	14 Dec 13
28	Robert A. Knauff	3 May 14

THE MEMORIAL PAVILION

Since the inception of the Air Force Academy, our graduates have willingly laid down their lives in the line of service to our great nation. It is the right of every graduate to be buried—with military honors—here at the Academy cemetery. During much of the year, Colorado's unpredictable weather can turn memorial services into punishing ordeals, wrought with rain, snow and ice. These conditions only add to a grieving family's mental anguish, often making it difficult to lay their loved ones to rest. Seeking a solution to the Academy's unforgiving climate, the classes of 1966, 1981, 1983, 1984 and others, through the assistance of the Association of Graduates, constructed the Memorial Pavilion at the Academy Cemetery to accommodate funeral services on this sacred ground. The Memorial Pavilion provides both indoor and outdoor settings where families may conduct the time-honored ritual of saying goodbye to their loved ones. Today, it is a place of dignity and respect for graveside services held either outdoors in a quiet, peaceful mountain setting, or inside, protected from Colorado's unpredictable weather. Located on the north side of the cemetery, the Memorial Pavilion comfortably seats 100-150 guests with facilities to accommodate reflection and viewings. Adjacent to the east wall there is a columbarium appropriate for interment of urns.

DIRECTORY BUILDING

The directory building is located near the west entrance to the cemetery so that grave sites can be easily located. It includes a record locator room that houses a touch screen information center. The system can show visitors the exact location of every grave and how to find them. A selection titled "Gone But Not Forgotten" provides guests specific information about each of our honored dead. Those buried here may be located by class year, last name, or cadet squadron. Information presented includes a cadet photograph, class year and a biographical tribute, complimented by a respectful rendition of Taps. The system also lists USAFA graduates honored on the War Memorial.