WATSON-62

12 August 1965

Lieutenant General Thomas S. Moorman
Superintendent
United States Air Force Academy, Colorado

Dear Sir:

The Association of Graduates regrets to inform you of the death of 1/Lt Donald D. Watson, USAFA '62, who was stationed with the 481st Tactical Fighter Squadron at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico.

Lieutenant Watson, on extended TDY assignment to Saigon, Vietnam, was killed when his F-100 was downed by VC ground fire. His flight was engaged in an air-to-ground strike against a VC troop concentration when his aircraft was destroyed in the ensuing crash after being struck heavily at low level by the enemy fire.

Lieutenant Watson was on his second tour in Vietnam, having volunteered in December of '64 to go to Vietnam to replace another pilot who could then come home for Christmas with his family. All reports indicate that Lieutenant Watson was an outstanding officer, pilot, and "soldier," giving in death, as he had in life, his utmost efforts.

Realizing your busy schedule, we would nevertheless ask your presence at chapel and interment here at USAFA, with chapel services beginning at 1400 on Friday, 13 August, in the Protestant Cadet Chapel. Graveside services follow immediately thereafter. We would be most appreciative of your attendance since we wish to afford Lieutenant Watson a fitting return, and to wish him Godspeed.

Regretfully,

RICHARD T. MATHEWS
Executive Secretary
Association of Graduates