WATSON, Donald D.
Class of 1962

First Lieutenant Watson was killed on 31 July 1965 as the pilot of an F-100 during an air to ground strike in Viet Cong. His plane was downed near Tay Ninh, South Vietnam when it was struck heavily by VC ground fire while flying at a low level and exploded. Watson was a member of the 481st TFS and was on his second tour at the time. He had volunteered to replace another pilot so that the pilot could return home to celebrate Christmas with his family. He was known as an outstanding officer, pilot, and "soldier." Watson's name is on the USAFA War Memorial for his sacrifice for and dedication to this country.

Narrative compiled by Heather Beer, Association of Graduates intern, Summer 2005.