'61

Academy Association of Graduates Announces Former Cadets Deaths

Officials of the Academy Association of Graduates announced the recent deaths of three former AFA cadets.

The deceased were 2d Lt. Robert F. Jones, class of 1965; Capt. Lee C. Dixon, class of 1961; and Capt. Harlow K. Halbower, class of 1959.

Lieutenant Jones, who was hospitalized short'y after graduation because of a brain tumor, was medically retired from the Air Force in mid-October. Since that time he had remained in a coma until his recent death. Jones, who was intered at the Academy Cemetery, is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack F. Jones of Big Rapids, Michigan.

As a cadet Jones won an Atomic Energy Commission scholarship to the University of Michigan.

Captain Dixon died Jan. 7 in Vietnam.

Assigned to the 774th TCS (463d ROTE Sq.) as a C-103B navigator, the captain was on a resupply mission in the area of Pleiku, in a landing pattern, when his aircraft exp'oded. No definite cause of the explosion has yet been released.

While in Vietnam Captain Dixon had flown in approximately 100 combat sorties.

Services were held for Dixon last week in Orland, Calif., which is the home of his parents Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Dixon. The captain was not married.

Captain Halbower was killed when his O-1F aircraft was struck by extremely intense hostile ground fire while on a "Forward Air Controller" mission 15 miles west of Saigon, RVN, on Jan. 2. His aircraft was damaged beyond control, with ensuing crash causing immediate death.

While serving as Forward Air Controller he had flown approximately 300 combat missions.

Services were held in Anthony, Kansas.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Dee Halbower and his parents Mr. and Mrs. K. W. Halbower.