

Capt Valmore William "Val" Bourque

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Birth: Jul. 23, 1936
South Hadley Falls
Hampshire County
Massachusetts, USA
Death: Oct. 24, 1964, Cambodia

In loving memory of... Valmore William Bourque.

You may be gone, no longer living on this earth; but you will live on - in the memories of your family and friends. There will always be a part of you living in those who knew you. You will live on because we remember you!

VALMORE WILLIAM BOURQUE - Air Force -
CAPT - 3
Age: 28
Race: Caucasian
Date of Birth Jul 23, 1936
From: SOUTH HADLEY FALLS, MA
Marital Status: Married - Linda L. (wife),
Wendy Sue (Daughter)**** Widow remarried
- Mrs John P Sheppard, Pleasantville, NY.,
Daughter, Wendy, married, Marine Lt Jack
Snider, Colorado.
Brother - Robert F. Bourque, Father -
Valmore V. Bourque, Mother (Divorced) -
Cecilia Agnes Bourque of South Hadley Hills,
Mass.

***** USAFA WIDOW-Mrs, Valmore W.
Bourque. widow of the first USAF Academy
graduate to be killed in action against an
enemy, receives the third, fourth and fifth
OLC's to the
Air Medal from Col Howard H. Cloud,
Commander, Ent AFB, Colo. Captain Bourque
was cited posthumously for duty in Vietnam
from July to October of last year.
***** The flag - draped coffin of Captain
Valmore William Bourque, 28 years old - first
Air Force Academy graduate to be killed in
action is borne to his final resting place in the
Air Force Academy cemetery. His comrades in
arms bid him farewell with full military honors
in ceremonies in Colorado Springs and at the
Academy. He was killed Oct. 24, 1964 when
his transport plane was shot down in South



Added by: [Jimmy Jones](#)



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Viet Nam. His wife and 2-year old daughter live in Colorado Springs.

Graduation - 1960

KIA Date - 10/24/1964

Squadron - CS 06

High School - So Hadley HS

High School Activities Class Vice President,
Yearbook Editor, Football, Basketball,
Baseball, Skiing

Post High School - Prep School: Williston
Academy, East Hampton Mass

Academy Experiences - Baseball, Soccer, Ski
Club

Academic Degree Major - BS - USAFA

Active Duty Assignments Pilot Training Pilot

C-131 Pilot C-123

KIA Conflict - Vietnam

Combat Information - 315th Tac Carrier
Group, Tan Son Nhut AB, SVN

Killed In Action Mission - C-123B air drop
mission near Bu Prang SVN. Struck by ground
fire over Cambodia and crashed.

Next of Kin - Linda L. (wife), Wendy Sue
(Daughter)

Burial Site - USAFA

MIA Information - Aeronautical Specialty
Rating Pilot, Aircraft Commander C-123B
Notable Decoration Awards - Promoted to
Captain Post Humorously 1 Purple Heart, 6
Air Medals

MILITARY DATA

Service: United States Air Force

Grade at loss: O2

Note: Posthumous Promotion as indicated

ID No: 015289252

MOS: 1115: Pilot

Unit: 309TH TROOP CARRIER SQDN, 315TH
TROOP CARRIER GROUP, 13TH AF

CASUALTY DATA

Incident Date: 10/24/1964

Casualty Date: 10/24/1964

Age at Loss: 28

Location: Quang Duc Province, South
Vietnam

Casualty Type: Hostile, died while missing

Casualty Reason: Fixed Wing - Pilot

Casualty Detail: Air loss or crash over land
ON THE WALL Panel 01E Line 067

Comments - Entered with the Class of 1959,
first cadet sworn in. First Graduate KIA -
Captain Bourque was the first USAFA
graduate to be lost in Vietnam.

CAPT - 3 - Air Force - Regular
Casualty was on Oct 24, 1964



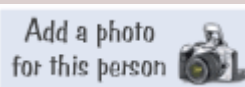
5 November 1964/1027/DJH

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ACADEMY GRADUATE BURIED-----Capt. Valmore W. Bourque, first
Air Force Academy graduate killed in action, was buried with full military
honors Thursday at the Academy's cemetery. Pallbearers -- classmates
of Captain Bourque -- carry the coffin by an honor guard of 24 cadets from
the 6th Cadet Squadron, the unit to which the captain was assigned during
his years at the Academy. Captain Bourque died Oct. 24 in Viet Nam.

(Air Force Photo)

Added by: [Eddieb](#)



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Photos may be scaled.
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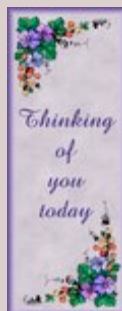
~ Martinez Family

Added: May. 22, 2013



- [Eddieb](#)

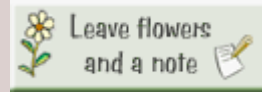
Added: May. 22, 2013



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Added: Mar. 2, 2013

In , CAMBODIA
Hostile, died while missing, FIXED WING -
PILOT
AIR LOSS, CRASH ON LAND
Body was recovered



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The other casualties: Capt Edward Stephen Krukowski (KIA)
1Lt Robert George Armstrong (KIA) SSgt Ernest Joseph Halvorson (KIA) SSgt Theodore Bert Phillips (KIA)
AIC Eugene Richardson (KIA) 1Lt Valmore W. Bourque
SSgt Lawrence Woods(USA) PFC Charles P. Sparks (USA)

Captain Bourque C-123B Provider (#55-4549), of the 315th Troop Carrier Group at Tan Son Nhut AB, took off from Nha Trang to drop ammunition to an isolated Special Forces camp at Bu Prang close to the Cambodian border.

During the mission it wandered over the border and was hit in the starboard engine by AAA from within Cambodia itself.

The aircraft crashed with the loss of all on board a few miles from Phum Duk Dam just inside Cambodia.

SSgt Lawrence Woods, US Army,5th Special Forces Group (MIA)
PFC Charles Pierce Sparks, US Army (KIA)
Captain Bourque was interred on the grounds of the Air Force Academy.

Burial:
[United States Air Force Academy Cemetery](#)
Colorado Springs
El Paso County
Colorado, USA
Plot: 003 D 041

Maintained by: [Eddieb](#)
Originally Created by: [HEE \(inactive\)](#)
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