



SCHOLARSHIP IN HONOR OF

**CAPTAIN
CRAIG A. PAUL**

U.S. AIR FORCE

Captain Craig A. Paul

He was 10 years old, and already knew that, with determination, he would attend the United States Air Force Academy and become a pilot. Eight years later, in 1964, he graduated from high school and received a nomination to the Academy. Despite his high academic achievements and outstanding recommendations, he did not receive an appointment. Because of the Vietnam War there was a great need for pilots, but Craig did not have the peripheral vision required to qualify for pilot training. He was, however, awarded a Falcon Scholarship to Millard School in Bandon, Oregon, as a prelude to admission to the Academy the following year.

Craig began his studies at Millard in September 1964, and the next spring, after scoring in the top three percent, he was nominated to the Academy. On June 4, 1969, he received his diploma from President Nixon, the Commencement speaker. On May 30, 1970, he married Suzanne Osborn in the Academy chapel.

His first assignment was at Mather AFB, California, where he spent 38 weeks earning his navigator wings. Next was Beale AFB, California, for training as an electronic warfare officer (EWO) for B-52 duty. In April 1972 he began his first six-month tour of duty in Vietnam. Three weeks later, on December 20, his plane was shot down about 11 miles from Hanoi. Though no parachutes were seen, electronic signals were picked up from his plane. A few days later the U.S. government intercepted messages from Radio Havana concerning

the plane. Information released about Craig and his family could only have come from Craig himself.

In March 1973, at the conclusion of the war, it was learned from returned POWs that Craig's name was seen in a Vietnamese interrogation book in Hanoi prison. Knowledge was also received of Craig's heroism in helping the injured gunner escape from the plane. For this he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

On September 30, 1977, Craig's remains along with those of 21 other American servicemen were returned to the U.S. Government and on October 27 the Defense Department changed Craig's status to Killed in Action. On November 7, in keeping with Craig's wishes, a memorial service with full honors was held at the Air Force Academy. He graduated, married, and now is interred at the Academy he loved so much.

Following is a list of awards and decorations earned by Craig:

- Distinguished Flying Cross
- Purple Heart
- Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
- Air Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster
- Combat Readiness Medal
- National Defense Service Medal
- Vietnam Service Medal
- Air Force Longevity Service Award
with two Oak Leaf Clusters
- Small Arms Expert Marksman Ribbon

Dear Gen. Bellis:

Craig Paul lived his dream and served his country bravely and faithfully.

With this scholarship we pay tribute to him.

Esther L. Millard

*Esther L. Millard
President
Millard Foundation*



The Falcon Foundation is a 501(c)(3), non-profit foundation. Its purpose is to provide scholarships to College or Preparatory Schools for motivated young people seeking admission to USAFA and a career in the Air Force.

Although it is a separate organization, the Falcon Foundation works closely with USAFA.