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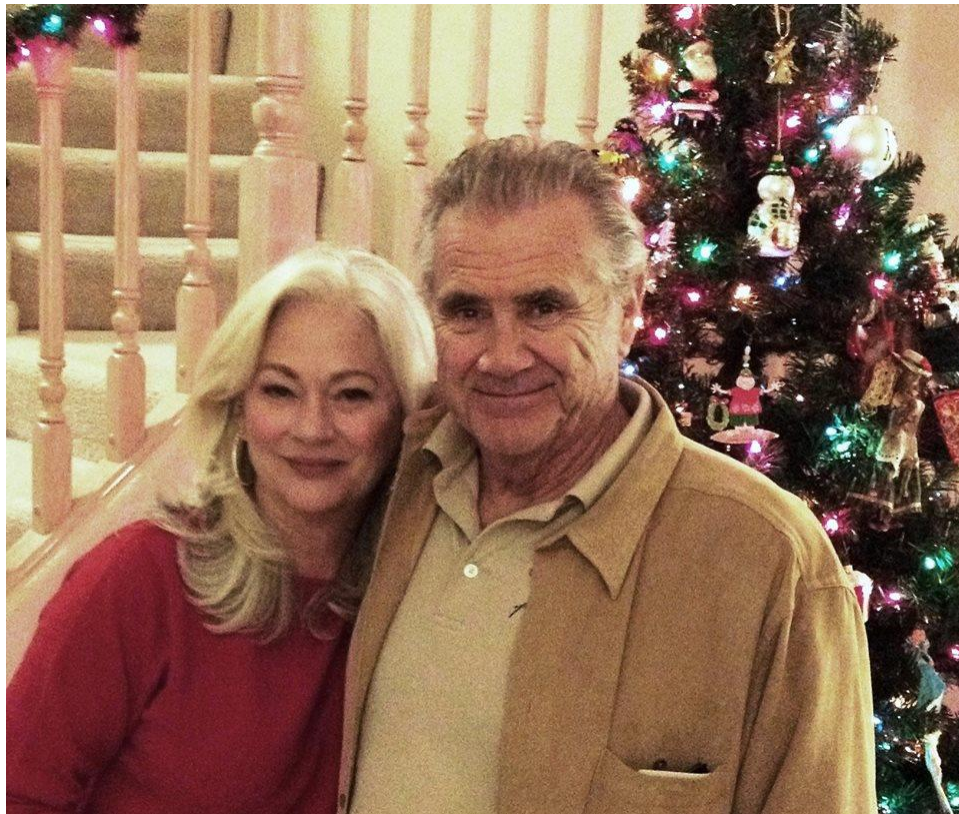


**Historical Point:** In 1914, a little over 100 years ago, the Aeronautical Division of the Army Signal Corps was authorized by statute as part of the Aviation Section, with a Chief of Division who, as head of the headquarters component, also exercised control of the Section. The Aviation Section, Signal Corps (ASSC) was organized on the 18<sup>th</sup> of July and more importantly it remains the designation recognized by the United States Air Force as its predecessor. The mission of the ASSC was Aviation Support—both liaison and observation. The Head of the ASSC was LtCol Samuel Reber who was the first officer formally designated as Chief of Division. Total size was 44 Officers, 224 Men and 23 Aircraft.

Gil **Merkle** sent a note and photograph recording the interment of his wife, Sue, at the Air Force Academy Cemetery on December 23rd. Gil wanted to say that he and his family “thank all of our classmates who have supported us during these past few months since Sue’s death. Friends like all of you help make it easier to press on.” He said the time was selected because he has 4 grandchildren in college, spread from Texas to Seattle and this was the only time they could gather. Several of our classmates from the area attended the service at the cemetery on a cold and clear day. In the photo Bill **Ball** is holding the Class Flag.



Last to marry! Hank **Hoffman** wrote that he and Nancy are planning to get married at the Maricopa County Courthouse in Phoenix on Thursday, the 29th of January around 5pm. He added “we have our two witnesses corralled for the event, so this is an information only notice to people out of town. Anyone who does show up at the event can expect free drinks/dinner at a site to be determined.” At some time after that they will host a real wedding party at their home in Scottsdale. Hank said he is looking at May for the event so everyone can gather about the pool. Also “No presents, please!” A photo of the two of them sent in 2013 was in my file so I took the liberty of adding the happy couple to this article.



**Nancy and I are really looking forward to this!**

**Class Coins:** Do any of you remember the Class of 1963 50 Year Reunion Coins? Ever since the reunion I have been bugging Dick **Shutack**, the coin guru, about getting my hands on additional coins to give as gifts to our family members who joined us at the reunion. It never crossed my mind that we could order additional coins but, of course, those orders had to be placed well before the Reunion so Dick could get them from his vendor. Well, Dick gave me a call earlier in the month saying he still had a few coins left over and in our conversation he said more coins could be ordered (in minimum batches of 25) if there were other classmates out there who would like to have an extra coin or so. If you fall into that category please let Dick know. The coins will

cost about \$5 each plus postage. Dick can be reached via e-mail at [dshutack@gmail.com](mailto:dshutack@gmail.com) or Cell Phone (719) 661-2387. He did add he will be laying on a beach somewhere in Hawaii until late March and won't be messing with phones or e-mail during that time. As it is, you will be receiving this magazine issue in late March so calling or e-mailing him in April should work.



**This photo published in the Web version.**

We received a number of beautiful Holiday Cards from classmates and along with the cards annual reports on accomplishments, events plus lots of comings and goings. Linda and I really enjoy receiving all the cards and reading all the news. Inserted with Ken **Broman's** card was this photograph taken back at the 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion of the members of Cadet Squadron 14. Thankfully, Ken added a "cutline" so I didn't have to ask who is who. *For sure* Murph is no longer with us and I'd recognize Gordon anytime.





Ed Maher, Tom Derieg, Chuck Ogren, George Barnes, George Greer, Tom McCrackin, Bob Murphy, Gordon Bredvik

Klem Kalberer, John Clavin, Ken Broman, Bob Rohatch

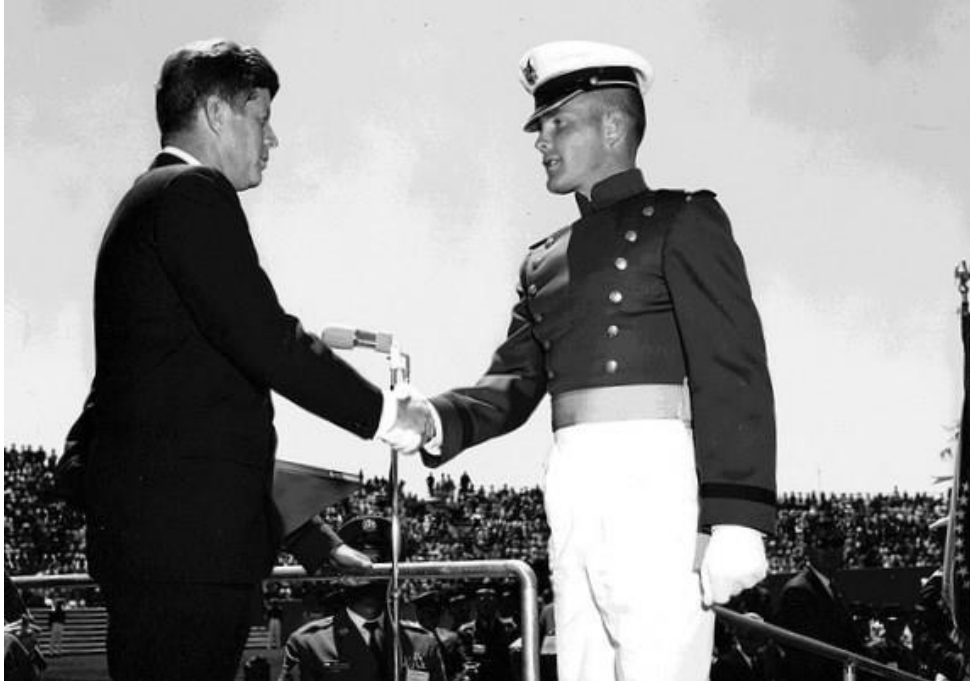
Many of you, like me, are members of the Air Force Association and receive the [Air Force Magazine](#). In the December 2014 issue there was an article that told the story of the 62<sup>nd</sup> MAW at McChord, AFB WA, being newly tasked with delivering supplies to Antarctica at McMurdo and the South Pole in June 1983. Two of the Wing's squadrons during that time flew the C-141B aircraft. The mission was flown during the Antarctic Winter and delivery was done by airdrop at each location. Two midair refuelings were also necessary for completing the airdrops and the return to Christchurch NZ. It was clear the mission was both extremely difficult and very precarious. If something went wrong with either of the refuelings there weren't many options for the crew. To make it back to Christchurch, NZ could easily be impossible and landing at McMurdo or the South Pole appeared to be improbable. The mission aircrew was listed in the article and a name well known by us, the Class of 1963, was included. There in the middle of everything was Richard D. **Paprowicz**, Navigator.

**Tidbits in Time Almanac:** Over the years a member of the Class of 1969 E. Adrian Van Zelfden has sent out a monthly e-mail to former USAFA Cadets and their families and friends entitled "Tidbits in Time Almanac – USAFA Edition." You may well be a recipient. Each day of the month has a "tidbit" about that day in history. For example; "**January 7, 1941 [Frederick D. Gregory, Jr.](#)** (USAFA 1964) was born in Washington, DC. After training as a helicopter pilot, he flew rescue missions in Vietnam in the H-43. He then cross-trained into fixed-wing aircraft, and later became an Air Force test pilot. He was selected by NASA as an astronaut in 1978. There is speculation that he was chosen partly because of his helicopter experience. He flew on three missions, STS-51-B, STS-33, and STS-44, spending 18 days and 23 hours in space." And, on

“**January 25, 1984** the Apple [Macintosh](#) computer went on sale for \$2,495 as a replacement for the Apple II.”

Tidbits in Time is fun and more often than not enlightening. It is a great tool for reading, entertaining and exploring. To be on Adrian’s list doesn’t cost you a thing although, he accepts donations to defray expenses. It is as easy as sending him a note at [vanzelfden@usafa-grads.com](mailto:vanzelfden@usafa-grads.com). If you want to sample first just send me an e-mail and I’ll forward the latest edition.

Bonus Photograph! Just for the Web Site, here is a great throwback pic of Tom Fryer receiving his USAFA Diploma from JFK.



That’s it for this time. If you have been in survival mode this winter—especially in the Northeast—by the time you read this change is on the way. For us in the Desert Southwest it is just a matter dealing with a one hour frost delay at the golf course. Take care of yourselves and let me hear from you now and then.