



Father Robert Thomas Drummond

**West Point Chaplain
and Associate Classmate**

Born – 27 Nov 1935, Fitchburg, MA.

To USMA – Came from Massachusetts. Appointed by (not a Cadet). Name – “Father Bob”.

Died – 2 Sep 2000 (age 64) at St. Thomas Monastery, Villanova, PA. Buried at Bourne National Cemetery, Cape Cod, MA.

Military Awards – Unknown.

Schooling – Bachelor’s Degree, Massachusetts Military Academy, Bachelor’s Degree in Philosophy, Villanova University.

Family – Not married.

Contact – Rosemary Drummond Du Beau (sister), Hugh Drummond (brother).

After high school, Father Bob Drummond entered Merrimack College, North Andover, MA. He had sought to fulfill a childhood dream of entering West Point. However, a decision of the Army Medical Corps denied him that dream. He went on to graduate from the Massachusetts Military Academy, Boston, MA in 1961. Along the way, Father Bob was awarded a commission as 2nd Lieutenant. Had he been accepted to West Point, he would have taken the oath with the Class of 1961 on the Plain on 2 July 1957. This was one of many circumstances that endeared Father Bob to our class as an Associate Classmate.

After graduation from Massachusetts Military Academy, he entered the Augustinian Order and in 1964, earned a B.A. in philosophy from Villanova University, PA. In 1967, Father Bob was ordained as a Catholic Priest. His first assignment was to a parish in the Bronx, NY, where he worked at the parish high school. Concurrently, he continued his career as an Army Chaplain in the New York City area. In 1982, the Archdiocese of New York recognized Father Bob’s long love for the Army and the Corps of Cadets and assigned him as Assistant to the Catholic Chaplain at West Point, where he served for 13 years.

In 1995, Father Bob retired from the Army with the rank of Brigadier General and was assigned by the Church to Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, Staten Island, NY. Later, he was transferred to St. Thomas Monastery at Villanova University, PA due to ill health, where he passed away on 2 September 2000. During his final days, Father Bob continued to serve at local military communities and attended gatherings of graduates and friends of West Point. He will be missed at the Class of 1961 reunions where he would join our activities and celebrate Mass with his Associate Classmates.

Footnote - Several of Father Bob’s friends have quipped that his desire to enter West Point was so strong that he had to join the priesthood to do so.