

## Frequently Asked Questions

*Here's A Toast: Gone But Not Forgotten* annual publication

The Association of Graduates and Air Force Academy Foundation has introduced a new benefit to better memorialize USAFA graduates and support their families.

*Gone But Not Forgotten*, which appeared in *Checkpoints* magazine for decades, has transitioned to a dedicated, annual publication. The inaugural edition of *Here's A Toast: Gone But Not Forgotten* will be published around March 2025.

Q: Why are you making this change?

A: As the Academy's graduate population ages, *Checkpoints* has become increasingly stretched in accommodating the growing number of submitted memorial articles.

Q: What is the purpose of the new, dedicated memorial publication?

A: The new *Here's A Toast: Gone But Not Forgotten* publication will honor the Long Blue Line by sharing the personal stories of graduates and preserving their legacy. It reflects the Association and Foundation's mission to support the Academy, serve graduates and preserve the heritage of the institution and Long Blue Line.

Q: How did you arrive at this decision?

A: We considered several cost-effective, impactful options and consulted with our peers at the U.S. Military Academy and the U.S. Naval Academy. West Point's *TAPS* publication provided an excellent model for this new publication.

Q: Who will receive a printed copy of the annual memorial publication?

A: As part of this new service, a complimentary copy will be provided to a loved one of the deceased memorialized in the publication. Additional printed copies will be available for a nominal fee. The digital version will be available to all AOG members.

Q: Can I view the digital version of *Here's A Toast: Gone But Not Forgotten*?

A: AOG members can access the inaugural digital issue at [usafa.org](http://usafa.org) once live. If you are not a member but wish to join and access this benefit and others, membership is available at no cost to all USAFA graduates [here](#).

Q: How can I order a printed *Here's A Toast: Gone But Not Forgotten* publication?

A: *Here's A Toast: Gone But Not Forgotten* is available for pre-order for \$25 [here](#) or by calling 719-472-0300. Proceeds will help fund the program and offset the costs of providing a complimentary copy to families of fallen graduates, Air Training Officers, cadets and AOG Honorary Members.

Q: Can I purchase a commemorative keepsake of one specific memorial article?

A: Each memorial article is available as a commemorative keepsake for \$15. These articles are printed on parchment-like paper suitable for framing and come enclosed in a folder. Pre-orders can be placed [here](#) or by calling 719-472-0300.

Q: When is the latest a memorial article can be submitted to be included in the inaugural publication?

A: Jan. 29 is the deadline for memorial article submissions for 2024 deaths.

Q: How long can a memorial article be for the inaugural publication?

A: Memorial articles should be 400 or fewer words in the inaugural publication.

Q: What photo should I send in?

A: Email a recent favorite photo of the deceased. The photo (head and shoulders, color preferred) should be emailed as a high-resolution .jpg. Low-resolution image submissions may be declined in favor of a cadet yearbook photo.

Q: How should I submit a memorial article?

A: Submit a memorial article and photo through a form at [usafanextofkin.org](https://usafanextofkin.org) or email [deceasednotifications@usafa.org](mailto:deceasednotifications@usafa.org).

Q: Do I have to wait a full year to read memorial articles?

A: Memorial articles for deaths in 2025 should be emailed when ready to ensure the Association can post the tribute on [usafa.org/heritage/gbnf](https://usafa.org/heritage/gbnf).

Q: Will memorial articles appear in *Checkpoints* after 2024?

A: Memorial articles won't appear in *Checkpoints* following the December 2024 issue, but the magazine will continue to list death notices.

Q: Will death notices continue to be printed in *Checkpoints*?

A: Death notices will be printed in each issue of *Checkpoints*.

Q: Will the maximum word limit for memorial articles change in future years?

A: One of the major benefits of transitioning to a dedicated, annual publication is that memorial articles for deaths in 2025 can be up to 800 words. Each article will be respectfully presented on its own full page.

Q: When will memorial articles for deaths in 2025 be printed?

A: Memorial articles for deaths in 2025 will be printed around March 2026.

Q: How should I contact the AOG about a death notice?

A: Call 719-472-0300 or email Terri Davis, next-of-kin support specialist, at [deceasednotifications@usafa.org](mailto:deceasednotifications@usafa.org).

Q: Who should I reach out to with questions, concerns, etc.?

A: Please reach out to David Bitton, assistant director of strategic communications and publications, at 719-247-8745 or use our [Contact Form](#).