



ALAMO HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL

2024-25 BRUCE WILHELMY MEMORIAL AWARD



Christopher Bruce Wilhelmy, III graduated from Alamo Heights in 1954 where he was a very popular leader who co-captained the 1954 Texas State Championship basketball team. He chose to attend the US Naval Academy and in his final year was selected to be Commander of the 20th Company. Naval Air Station Pensacola was his next stop and on completion of flight training he was assigned to Light Photography Squadron 62. With this squadron he flew the RFSA Cruiser and distinguished himself by procuring low level photos over Cuba at tree top level which proved crucial to the nation's handling of the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis. For this bravery he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. After two years as an aide to Vice Admiral in Taiwan, Bruce decided to become an astronaut and was selected for Navy Test Pilot School in NAS Patuxent River, Maryland.

Tragically, in February 1966, Bruce was killed while flying a 28B Trojan aircraft accelerating at 28,000 feet, when the aircraft spun and the wings came off. Bruce was buried with honors in Arlington National Cemetery.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- One senior will be selected by committee to receive a \$1,000.00 award;
- The winners will be announced at the Virtual Senior Awards Ceremony;
- Nominations are only to be completed by a teacher or counselor;
- Deadline to submit nominations is **4:30 pm Friday, March 7, 2025** (*this is a non-negotiable deadline*);
- Please email nominations to Lt. Col. Diaz

