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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CADET DIES AFTER INJURY, FUNERAL MASS SET – July 2, 2016

West Point, N.Y. – U.S. Military Academy Cadet Thomas M. Surdyke, a member of the Class of 2019, from Festus, Missouri, succumbed to injuries on June 30 after an incident while he was on leave at Coppers Beach in Southhampton Village, New York.

“Our thoughts and prayers are with the entire Surdyke family during this difficult time” said Commandant of Cadets Brig. Gen. Diana Holland.

“Cadet Surdyke epitomized the values of duty, honor, country in all that he did,” said Lt. Gen. Robert L. Caslen Jr., academy superintendent, in a letter to the West Point community. “His classmates remember him most for his uplifting personality and quick sense of humor.”

Private services are scheduled here for Monday, July 4, at Most Holy Trinity Chapel. A casket viewing at 11 a.m., funeral mass at 1 p.m., followed by interment at the West Point Cemetery are open to family, friends and the West Point community.

About West Point

The U.S. Military Academy at West Point is a four-year, co-educational, federal, liberal arts college located 50 miles north of New York City. It was founded in 1802 as America's first college of engineering and continues today as the world's premier leader-development institution, consistently ranked among top colleges in the country. Its mission remains constant—to educate, train, and inspire the Corps of Cadets so that each graduate is a commissioned leader of character committed to the values of Duty, Honor, Country and prepared for a career of professional excellence and service to the nation as an officer in the U. S. Army. For more information, go to www.westpoint.edu.



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY
WEST POINT, NEW YORK 10996-5000

June 30, 2016

Members of the United States Corps Of Cadets, The Long Gray Line, Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is with great sadness that I announce the death of Cadet Thomas Michael Surdyke, a member of the Class of 2019, B Company, Fourth Regiment. His untimely death occurred on June 30, 2016 after he succumbed to injuries sustained while on leave in South Hampton, New York.

The late Cadet Surdyke was born on July 4, 1997, in Jefferson County, Missouri. Cadet Surdyke attended St. Pius X High School in Festus, Missouri.

Throughout his time here at the Military Academy, Cadet Surdyke epitomized the values of Duty, Honor, Country in all that he did. Tom was an exemplary cadet and hard worker, who achieved the Dean's List both semesters of his plebe year. Tom was a Defense and Strategic Studies major, and during company athletics was a respected member of the Company Sandhurst Team. His classmates remember him most for his uplifting personality and quick sense of humor.

I wish to extend to his family the sincere and profound sympathy of the Corps of Cadets and all members of this command. His death will be mourned by all who have known him.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert L. Caslen Jr.".

Robert L. Caslen Jr.
Lieutenant General, US Army
Superintendent