

## **Charles Ethridge Thornton, Class of 1954.**



Charles was killed during a Soviet ambush during the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. Charles was a medical reporter for the Arizona Republic newspaper. He was the first American journalist killed in Afghanistan after the Soviet invasion of 1970. Charles, age 50, was traveling in a truck with mujahideen fighters in September 1985 covering the work of an American medical team in the country. They were ambushed by Soviet troops and helicopters.