

**Private First Class Holly J. McGeogh, USA (Taylor, MI, 20 years)**

Company A, 4th Forward Support Battalion, 4th Infantry Division (Mech), Fort Hood, TX

Died: 31 Jan 04, Kirkuk, Iraq

PFC McGeogh died when her vehicle was hit by an improvised explosive device during convoy operations in Kirkuk, Iraq. She was a 2002 graduate of Truman High School where she was in the ROTC program for four years, joining the army immediately upon graduation. McGeogh volunteered for combat patrols and was known to sneak into the patrols when not selected for them. She was the first female soldier from MI killed in Iraq

**Private First Class Nichole M. Frye, USAR (Lena, WI, 20 years)**

Company A, 415th Civil Affairs Battalion, U.S. Army Reserve, Kalamazoo, MI

Died: 16 Feb 04, Baqubah, Iraq

PFC Frye died when her convoy encountered an improvised explosive device. She was a civil affairs specialist who worked as a waitress in her civilian life. She planned to train to become a firefighter upon her return from deployment.

**Captain Gussie M. Jones, USA (Shreveport, LA, 41 years)**

31<sup>st</sup> Combat Support Hospital, Fort Bliss, TX

Died: 7 Mar 04, Baghdad, Iraq

CPT Jones was serving as a medical surgical nurse in Baghdad. Her death was as a result of an illness. "She was a very dedicated person and was always smiling," said a co-worker and friend, Capt. Susan Gilbert. "If anyone asked her to do something, she would do it. And she was very kind and gentle and patient with the patients." Jones was active volunteer and participant in the women's group at her church.

**Specialist Tyanna S. Avery-Felder, USA (Bridgeport, CT, 22 years)**

296<sup>th</sup> Brigade Support Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, WA

Died: 7 Apr 04, Balad, Iraq

SPC Felder died as a result of injuries sustained on April 4 in Mosul when her convoy vehicle was hit with an improvised explosive device. She graduated from Kolbe Catholic High School in Bridgeport, CT where she played basketball and sang in the choir. She took classes at Southern Connecticut State University towards a degree in early childhood education before deciding to join the Army. Avery married Army SPC Adrian Felder in 2002. She deployed less than a year after they married.

**Specialist Michelle M. Witmer, WI ARNG (New Berlin, WI, 20 years)**

32<sup>nd</sup> Military Police Company, Wisconsin Army National Guard

Died: 9 Apr 04, Baghdad, Iraq

SPC Witmer died when the vehicle in which she was riding came under attack by small arms fire and an improvised explosive device. She had two sisters and two brothers. Witmer's twin sister Charity and older sister were all serving in Iraq at the time of her death. Charity remembers Witmer as a "klutz who loved candy."

**Specialist Isela Rubalcava, USA (El Paso, TX, 26 years)**

296<sup>th</sup> Combat Support Battalion, 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team), Fort Lewis, WA

Died: 8 May 04, Mosul, Iraq

SPC Rubalcava died when a mortar round hit near her. She was a graduate of Canutillo High School in El Paso where she grew up with two younger brothers.

**Private First Class Leslie D. Jackson, USA (Richmond, VA, 18 years)**

A Company, 115<sup>th</sup> Forward Support Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division, Ft. Hood, TX

Died: 20 May 04, Baghdad, Iraq

PFC Jackson died when her military vehicle hit an improvised explosive device as it was returning to Camp Eagle. She had been the Battalion Commander in her JROTC unit in high school. The army was a path to a higher education for Jackson. Her death at age 18 was very difficult for her high school.