

Knoll, Private First Class Garrett

Private First Class Garrett Knoll, 23, of Verona, was killed Monday, April 23, 2007, while on duty northeast of Baghdad, Iraq. He was born in Mt. Clemens on July 8, 1983. Garrett attended Verona Mills Country School from grades 5-8 and graduated in 2001 from Bad Axe High School, where he participated and worked hard on the cross country squad and track team. During the summer months, he enjoyed playing golf and working at the Verona Hills Golf Club on the maintenance/custodial staff, as well as in the bag room. He was known as a quiet and polite young man who had a good sense of humor and enjoyed his friends. He liked to fish, hunt, and work on automobiles. Garrett attended Ferris State University for three years and then moved on to attend Baron Institute, Hartford, Connecticut, and graduated in 2005. He loved being a United States Army combat medic, soldier, and paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne Division based in Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He is survived by his grandparents, Robert and Ruth Knoll, of Verona, and Nadine Rinner, of Oregon; two aunts, Suzanne (Jeffrey) Myers, of Arlington, Texas, and Rebecca Russell, of Roseville; cousins, Brianne Myers, of New York, Justin (Lauren) Myers, of Arlington, Texas, Alecia Russell, of Mt. Pleasant, Matthew and Jacob Russell, of Roseville, First Lieutenant Phillip Rathbun, of Virginia, escorted Garrett back from Iraq, second cousin, Lane Myers, of Arlington, Texas; special friend and second cousin, Troy Ziehm; and several great aunts, uncles and cousins. Garrett was preceded in death by his father, Jeffrey Knoll; and his grandfather, Calvin Rinner. A funeral service will be at 11 a.m. on Friday, May 4, 2007, at the Bad Axe High School gymnasium. Visitation will be from 1 to 9 p.m. on Thursday at MacAlpine Funeral Home in Bad Axe. Burial will be in the Verona Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Bad Axe Public Library, 200 S. Hanselman Street, Bad Axe, Michigan 48413, Bad Axe High School Athletics Department, 200 N. Barrie Road, Bad Axe, Michigan 48413, or Verona Mills School, 3487 School Street, Bad Axe, Michigan 48413.