



IVY CONRADO IS RUNNING FOR ARMY STAFF SGT. CYNTHIA R. TAYLOR

Columbus Staff Sgt. Cynthia Taylor killed in Afghanistan sleeper attack
By ALAN RIQUELMY

A Columbus soldier died Saturday while serving in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, the U.S. Department of Defense said.

Staff Sgt. Cynthia Renea Taylor, 39, was one of five soldiers killed when an Afghan National Army soldier working as a Taliban sleeper agent detonated a bomb vest he was wearing in a meeting attended by about 40 people.

Sixteen soldiers, nine from the United States, and seven interpreters were injured.

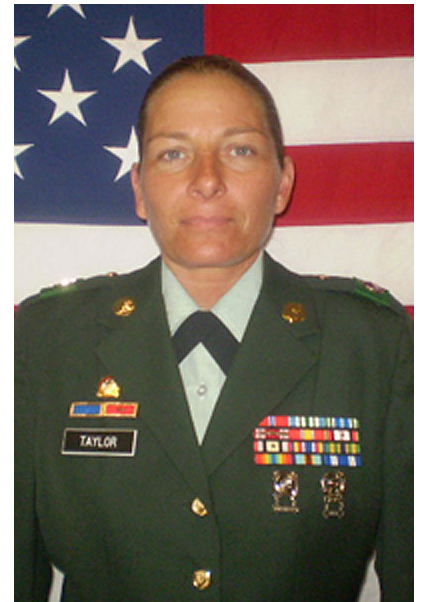
The five soldiers died at Forward Operating Base Gamberi, Nangarhar province.

Taylor served with the 101st Special Troops Battalion, 101st Sustainment Brigade, 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Ky. She served as a wheeled vehicle mechanic assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company with the 101st Airborne Division.

'We will remember them as not only soldiers but as parents and spouses and siblings and coaches and mentors and friends, and most all here, as Screaming Eagles,' said Maj. Gen. John F. Campbell on Monday.

Taylor joined the Army in November 2003, arriving at Fort Campbell in April 2004. Her awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Army Service Ribbon, North Atlantic Treaty Organization Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon, Combat Action Badge, Driver Badge and the Mechanic Badge.

Taylor is survived by a daughter, Spc-E4 Maggie Jean Taylor stationed at Ft. Bragg, NC; a son, Joseph L. Goodwin of Oak Grove, Ky.; and her mother, Judy A. Hart of Clarksville, Tenn.





Staff Sgt. Cynthia R. Taylor, 39, of Columbus, Ga.; died April 16, at Forward Operating Base Gamberi, Nangarhar province, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when an Afghan National Army soldier attacked with multiple grenades. She was assigned to the 101st Special Troops Battalion, 101st Sustainment Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, Ky. She is the daughter of Judy Ann Hart of Charleston and the late Gary Dale Taylor. In addition to her mother, she is survived by one daughter, Spc-E4 Maggie Jean Taylor stationed at Ft. Bragg, NC; one son, Joseph Lee Goodwin of Clarksville, TN; one uncle, David Hart of Charleston; her fiancé, Paul Smith of Clarksville, TN; also two granddaughters, Madison Elizabeth Sisk of Clarksville, TN and Emma Hope Crouch of Ft. Bragg, NC. Preceding her in death were her maternal grandparents, Richard and Frances Metheny Hart; her paternal grandparents, Lee and Nola Tate Taylor; one aunt, Frances Cooper; and two uncles, Charles Wayne Hart and Larry Joe Hart. She was cremated, and private family interment will be conducted at a later date.

