

**SPECIALIST**  
**BRITTANY BRIA GORDON**  
**2 OCT 1988 - 13 OCT 2012**

SPC Brittany Bria Gordon was born on October 2, 1988, to Brenda Thompson and Cedric Gordon of St. Petersburg, Florida. She graduated from St. Petersburg High School in 2006, where she was captain of the girls' basketball team. She attended the University of Florida and St. Petersburg College before enlisting in the Army in January of 2010.

SPC Gordon enlisted as a 35F, Military Intelligence Analyst, and completed Advanced Individual Training at Fort Huachuca, AZ in August 2010 before being assigned to the 572<sup>nd</sup> Military Intelligence Company, 2nd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division. While serving in the 572<sup>nd</sup> Military Intelligence Company, she deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. On her first deployment, SPC Gordon was assigned as the lead military analyst in Kandahar City, Afghanistan. She provided intelligence support for International Security Assistance Force and Afghan National Directorate of Security forces.

According to senior leaders, SPC Gordon had flourished during the deployment, doing the work of a more senior Soldier. According to fellow Soldiers, she went on missions outside the wire to gain a better understanding of her area of operations.

On 13 October 2012, SPC Gordon volunteered to go out on a mission to set the example for fellow junior Soldiers. At approximately 1030, while she was moving personnel and equipment off the helicopter, in preparation to conduct an Operational Detachment Alpha site survey, with the Afghan National Defense Services. A suicide improvised explosive device detonated, killing SPC Gordon, another America and four Afghan intelligence employees to include the Deputy Intelligence Director for Kandahar Province.

SPC Gordon will be remembered as a professional, intelligent leader dedicated to the mission. She was the perfect example of the Army's Warrior Ethos. She constantly placed the mission first, ensuring that the Soldiers in her unit had the most up to date intelligence. SPC Gordon never accepted defeat and never quit as she and fellow Soldiers spent countless hours preparing for the deployment and updating senior commanders on the security situation around their area of operations. She made it her mission to never leave a fallen comrade by constantly setting the example for her fellow Soldiers and ensuring she was always there for anyone in need. Her memory will live on through her smile, ambition, and energetic personality that touched the lives of so many.

SPC Brittany B. Gordon is the first female 35F, Military Intelligence Analyst, to be killed in action while serving in Iraq or Afghanistan. She is one of eight Military Intelligence female Soldiers to pay the ultimate price while serving in these campaigns.