

In memoriam . . .

On this July Fourth, we have dedicated the editorial pages to those Ohio men and women who have given their lives in service to their country in Afghanistan and Iraq. They've sacrificed for our freedom.



Cpl. Nathan R. Anderson
Age: 22

Hometown: Howard
Branch: Marines
Died Nov. 12, 2004 during fighting in Al Anbar Province.



Master Sgt. Joseph J. Andres Jr.
Age: 34

Hometown: Seven Hills
Branch: Army
Died Dec. 24, 2005 in Baqouba, Iraq in combat with enemy forces.



Lt. Col. Dominic R. Baragona
Age: 42

Hometown: Niles
Branch: Army
Died May 19, 2003 in a multi-vehicle traffic accident near Safwan.



Sgt. Michael C. Barkey
Age: 22

Hometown: Canal Fulton
Branch: National Guard
Died July 7, 2004 in a vehicle crash caused by hostile action. He was a member of the 1484th Transportation Company, in Akron.



Spc. Todd M. Bates
Age: 20

Hometown: Bellaire
Branch: National Guard
Died Dec. 10, 2003 while on river patrol on the Tigris River south of Baghdad when he dove into the water after his squad leader fell overboard.



Lance Cpl. Timothy Bell Jr.
Age: 22

Hometown: West Chester Township, Butler County
Branch: Marine Reserve
Died Aug. 3, 2005 in a roadside bombing in western Iraq.



Staff Sgt. Jason A. Benford
Age: 30

Hometown: Toledo
Branch: Army
Killed Sept. 27, 2005 when a sniper shot him while he was on patrol in Ramadi.



Lance Cpl. Eric J. Bernholtz
Age: 23

Hometown: Grove City
Branch: Marine Reserve
Died Aug. 3, 2005 in a roadside bombing in western Iraq.



Cpl. Jeffrey A. Boskovich
Age: 25

Hometown: North Royalton
Branch: Marine Reserve
Killed Aug. 1, 2005 by small-arms fire while in action with his sniper unit in western Iraq.



Staff Sgt. Elvis Bourdon
Age: 36

Hometown: Youngstown
Branch: Army
Died Sept. 6, 2004 during a patrol when his military vehicle came under attack by enemy forces using small-arms fire and grenades.



Pfc. Samuel R. Bowen
Age: 38

Hometown: Cleveland
Branch: National Guard
Died July 7, 2004 in Samarra when a rocket-propelled grenade exploded near his vehicle.



Cpl. Andrew D. Brownfield
Age: 24

Hometown: Akron
Branch: Marines
Died March 18, 2004 of injuries suffered in a mortar attack on Al Asad Air Base. Assigned to the Marine Wing Support Squadron 374, Twentynine Palms, Calif.



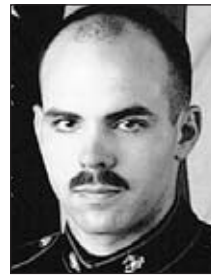
Pfc. Jesse R. Buryj
Age: 21

Hometown: Canton
Branch: Army
Fatally injured May 5, 2004 while trying to stop an attack on a checkpoint.



Spc. Brett T. Christian
Age: 27

Hometown: North Royalton
Branch: Army
Died July 23, 2003 in Mosul when his convoy came under attack by rocket propelled grenades.



Sgt. David R. Christoff Jr.
Age: 25

Hometown: Rossford
Branch: Marines
Killed May 22, 2006 while on patrol with his unit in Anbar province.



Lance Cpl. Michael J. Cifuentes
Age: 25

Hometown: Oxford
Branch: Marine Reserve
Died Aug. 3, 2005 in a roadside bombing in western Iraq.



Pfc. Gavin J. Colburn
Age: 20

Hometown: Frankfort
Branch: Army Reserve
Died April 22, 2005 when an improvised device detonated near his convoy vehicle.



Sgt. Steven D. Conover
Age: 21

Hometown: Wilmington
Branch: Army
Among 16 Americans killed Nov. 2, 2003 in a missile attack on a helicopter near Fallujah.



Sgt. 1st Class Daniel B. Crabtree
Age: 31

Hometown: Green Branch: National Guard
Died June 8, 2006 when a roadside bomb exploded near his Humvee in Kut, Iraq.



Lance Cpl. Wesley G. Davids
Age: 20

Hometown: Dublin
Branch: Marine Reserve
Died May 11, 2005 from an explosion while conducting combat operations in Karabilah.



Cpl. Dustin A. Derga
Age: 24

Hometown: Columbus
Branch: Marine Reserve
Died May 8, 2005 from enemy small arms fire during combat near Ubaydi.



Lance Cpl. Daniel Nathan Deyarmin
Age: 22

Hometown: Tallmadge
Branch: Marine Reserve
Killed Aug. 1, 2005 by small-arms fire while in action with his sniper unit in western Iraq.



Pfc. Christopher R. Dixon
Age: 18

Hometown: Obetz
Branch: Marine Reserve
Died May 11, 2005 from an explosion near his vehicle transport.



Master Sgt. Robert J. Dowdy
Age: 38

Hometown: Cleveland
Branch: Army
Died March 23, 2003 after Iraqi forces ambushed a supply convoy near Nasiriyah.



Lance Cpl. Christopher J. Dyer
Age: 19

Hometown: Evendale
Branch: Marine Reserve
Died Aug. 3, 2005 in a roadside bombing in western Iraq.



Sgt. Gary A. "Andy" Eckert Jr.
Age: 24

Hometown: Whitehouse
Branch: Army Reserve
Died May 8, 2005 when an explosive device went off near his convoy.



Lance Cpl. Robert F. Eckfield Jr.
Age: 23

Hometown: Cleveland
Branch: Marines
Died Oct. 27, 2005 from an indirect fire explosion in Saqlawiyah, Iraq.



Lance Cpl. Nicholas B. Erdy
Age: 21

Hometown: Owensville, Clermont County
Branch: Marine Reserve
Died May 11, 2005 from an explosion near his vehicle transport.



Lance Cpl. Jonathan Edward Etterling
Age: 22

Hometown: Wheelersburg
Branch: Marines
Died Jan. 26, 2005 when his helicopter crashed in a desert sandstorm.



Sgt. Michael W. Finke Jr.
Age: 28

Hometown: Wadsworth
Branch: Marines
Died Jan. 26, 2005 when his helicopter crashed in a desert sandstorm.



Lance Cpl. Dustin R. Fitzgerald
Age: 22

Hometown: Huber Heights
Branch: Marines
Died Aug. 18, 2004 in a noncombat-related vehicle incident.



Spec. David H. Ford IV
Age: 20

Hometown: Ironton
Branch: Army
Died Sept. 16, 2005 in Baghdad when a bomb exploded near his tank.



Spc. Daniel J. Freeman
Age: 20

Hometown: Cincinnati
Branch: Army
One of 15 military members who died April 6, 2005 in a helicopter crash near Ghazni, Afghanistan.



Spc. Joseph M. Garback Jr.
Age: 24

Hometown: Cleveland
Branch: Army
Died July 8, 2004 along with four members of his unit during a mortar attack on Iraqi National Guard headquarters in Baghdad.



Cpl. Richard A. Gilbert Jr.
Age: 26

Hometown: Dayton
Branch: Marines
Died Jan. 26, 2005 when his helicopter crashed in a desert sandstorm.



Cpl. Todd J. Godwin
Age: 21

Hometown: Zanesville
Branch: Marines
Died July 20, 2004 when a bomb exploded near him during combat.



Sgt. Shamus O. Goare
Age: 29

Hometown: Danville
Branch: Army
Killed June 28, 2005 when the helicopter he was aboard crashed in Asdabad, Afghanistan.



Pfc. Devin J. Grella
Age: 21

Hometown: Medina Township
Branch: Army Reserve
Died Sept. 6, 2004 when his convoy was struck by a homemade explosive device. Member, 706th Transportation Company, Mansfield.



Pfc. Christian Daniel Gurtner
Age: 19

Hometown: Ohio City
Branch: Marines
Died April 2, 2003 when his gun accidentally went off.



Spc. Richard A. Hardy
Age: 24

Hometown: Bolivar
Branch: Army
Died Oct. 15, 2005 in Ramadi, Iraq, with four other soldiers when a rocket-propelled grenade struck their Bradley Fighting Vehicle.



Sgt. Bradley J. Harper
Age: 25

Hometown: Dresden
Branch: Marines
Died June 13, 2005 in a roadside bombing in western Iraq.



Staff Sgt. Omer T. Hawkins II
Age: 31

Hometown: Cherry Fork
Branch: Army
Died Oct. 14, 2004 when an improvised bomb exploded near his convoy in Ar Ramadi.



Spc. Julie R. Hickey
Age: 20

Hometown: Galloway
Branch: Army
Died July 4, 2004 from non-combat-related illness while stationed in Afghanistan.



Pfc. Timothy J. Hines Jr.
Age: 21

Hometown: Fairfield
Branch: Army
Died July 14, 2005 in a Washington, D.C., hospital of injuries sustained in a roadside bombing in Baghdad.



Spc. Jeremy M. Hodge
Age: 20

Hometown: Ridgeway
Branch: National Guard
Killed Oct. 10, 2005 in Baghdad when a bomb struck his Humvee.



Sgt. Justin F. Hoffman
Age: 27

Hometown: Delaware
Branch: Marine Reserve
Died Aug. 3, 2005 in a roadside bombing in western Iraq.



Staff Sgt. Kendall H. Ivy II
Age: 29

Hometown: Galion
Branch: Marines
Fatally wounded May 11, 2005 when his vehicle struck a roadside bomb.



Pvt. Adam R. "A.J." Johnson
Age: 22

Hometown: Clayton
Branch: Army
Died Oct. 31, 2005 after his Humvee was struck by an improvised bomb in Mahmudiyah.



Lance Cpl. Thomas O. Keeling
Age: 23

Hometown: Strongsville
Branch: Marine Reserve
Died June 9, 2005 in an explosion in Haqlaniyah, Iraq.



Staff Sgt. Lester O. Kinney II
Age: 27

Hometown: Zanesville
Branch: Army
Died Jan. 27, 2004 when a roadside bomb exploded west of Baghdad.



Spc. Anthony D. Kinslow
Age: 21

Hometown: Westerville
Branch: Army
Died June 13, 2005 when his military vehicle came under a grenade attack in Ramadi, Iraq.



Staff Sgt. Charles A. Kiser
Age: 37

Hometown: Westerville
Branch: Army Reserve
Fatally injured June 24, 2004 by a car bomb outside Mosul.



Cpl. Timothy A. Knight
Age: 20

Hometown: Brooklyn, Cuyahoga County
Branch: Marines
Died Jan. 26, 2005 when his helicopter crashed in a desert sandstorm.



Spc. Allen J. Knop
Age: 22

Hometown: Willowick
Branch: Army
Died Nov. 23, 2005 in Baghdad from non-combat related injuries.



Cpl. David Kenneth J. Kreuter
Age: 26

Hometown: Cincinnati
Branch: Marine Reserve
Died Aug. 3, 2005 in a roadside bombing in western Iraq.



Sgt. Larry R. Kuhns Jr.
Age: 24

Hometown: Austintown
Branch: Army
Died June 13, 2005 when his military vehicle came under a grenade attack in Ramadi, Iraq.



Staff Sgt. Sean G. Landrus
Age: 31

Hometown: Thompson Township, Geauga County
Branch: Army
Died Jan. 29, 2004 when a roadside bomb exploded as he was driving a truck near Khaliyah.



Sgt. Bryan W. Large
Age: 31

Hometown: Cuyahoga Falls
Branch: Army
Killed Oct. 3, 2005 when a bomb exploded near his Humvee in Haqlaniyah.



Sgt. Benjamin J. Laymon
Age: 22

Hometown: Mount Vernon
Branch: Army
Died June 24, 2006 when his dismounted patrol encountered small-arms fire and was hit by an improved explosive device.



Lance Cpl. Christopher P. Lyons
Age: 24

Hometown: Mansfield
Branch: Marine Reserve
Died July 28, 2005 when his company came under attack by small-arms fire and rocket-propelled grenades in western Iraq.