

SHANNON M. KENT 1984-2019

Navy identifies Sailor killed in Syria

Navy Chief Petty Officer Shannon M. Kent dies in ISIS attack

**BY U.S. FLEET CYBER COMMAND
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A Sailor assigned to Cryptologic Warfare Activity 66, based at Fort Meade, was killed Jan. 16 while deployed in Manbij, Syria.

Navy Chief Cryptologic Technician (Interpretive) Shannon M. Kent was killed while supporting Combined Joint Task Force - Operation Inherent Resolve. She was 35.

"Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family, friends and teammates of Chief Petty Officer Kent during this extremely difficult time," said Navy Cmdr. Joseph Harrison, commanding officer, CWA 66.

"She was a rockstar, an outstanding chief petty officer and leader to many in the Navy Information Warfare community."

Kent, who hailed from upstate New York, enlisted in the Navy on Dec. 11, 2003, and graduated from boot camp at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill., in February 2004.

Her other military assignments included Navy Information Operations



PHOTO BY DAMON MORITZ/COURTESY PHOTO

Navy Chief Cryptologic Technician (Interpretive) Shannon M. Kent, 35, was killed Jan. 16 in Manbij, Syria, while assigned to Cryptologic Warfare Activity 66, supporting Combined Joint Task Force - Operation Inherent Resolve.

Command, Fort Gordon, Ga.; Navy Special Warfare Support Activity 2, Norfolk, Va.; Personnel Resource Development

Office, Washington, D.C.; Navy Information Operations Command, Fort Meade, Md.; and Cryptologic Warfare Group 6,

Fort Meade.

Kent reported to CWA 66 after the command was established on Aug. 10, 2018.

"Chief Kent's drive, determination and tenacity were infectious. Although she has left us way too soon, she will not be forgotten, and her legacy will live on with us," said CWA 66 Command Senior Enlisted Leader, Senior Chief Cryptologic Technician (Collections) Denise Vola.

Kent's awards and decorations include the Joint Service Commendation Medal (2), Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, Rifle Marksmanship Ribbon and Pistol Marksmanship Ribbon.

A married mother of two, the New York native graduated from the State University of New York at Plattsburgh in 2003 before enlisting.

Kent's father was the third highest-ranking officer in the state police. Her mother is a retired elementary school teacher.

Two days after Kent's death, New York Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo directed that flags on state government buildings be flown at half-staff in her honor.

Editor's note: Additional information for this article was taken from other sources.