

Check Six: Specialist Cwislyn K. Walter

[From the Daily Coz website](#)



Cwislyn Walter was born October 8, 1989, in Chuuk in the Federated States of Micronesia and grew up in Guam. On her MySpace page, Walter said she has two sisters, three brothers and "two very luvin' parents."

Crislyn graduated from Farrington High School in 2007. She joined the Hawaii National Guard in April 2007 and completed her basic training at Fort Gordon. She was also trained at Fort Jackson as a human resources specialist.

Walter was assigned to the HHC 29th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team and was deployed to Kuwait in October of 2008. Her unit is expected to return home in July.

According to an article in the Stars and Stripes:

"In my 26 years of service, SPC Walter ranks among the best that I have had the honor to have known and worked with," Lt. Col. Moses Kaoiwi, commander of the 29th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, was quoted as saying in an Army news release.

"She was young and motivated. She had initiative and produced quality work. She really had a positive impact on everyone in the battalion and brought the best out of everyone."

Walter was a passenger in a SUV which crashed on a trip from Camp Virginia to Camp Arifjan on February 19th, 2009. Three other Hawaii guardsmen were seriously injured in the single-vehicle accident on Seventh Ring Road outside Kuwait City. Specialist Cwislyn K. Walter died as a result of injuries sustained from the single-vehicle accident. The other guardsmen suffered from multiple injuries in the accident but have recovered.

A memorial service was held at Camp Virginia, Kuwait, to remember the 19-year-old National Guard soldier. According to [The Honolulu Advertiser site](#):

Nearly 600 U.S. service members from all over Kuwait filled the small Camp Virginia chapel today to pay their last respects to Spc. Cwislyn K. Walter, 19, a Hawaii National Guard soldier who was killed on Thursday in a vehicle accident in Kuwait.

An upturned rifle topped by a helmet with Walter's combat boots and a photo were arrayed in the chapel for the traditional combat memorial for the 2007 Farrington graduate.

According to the Star Bulletin site:

According to an Army release, the soldiers emphasized how significant it was that Walter became a U.S. citizen after being called to active duty in August along with 1,200 soldiers from the Hawaii Army National Guard and another 500 from the Army Reserve's 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry.

They specifically noted how she spent countless hours studying for the citizenship test while the unit was completing mobilization training at Fort Hood in Texas.

As they all expected, she passed with flying colors before her unit left for Kuwait.

Governor of Hawaii ordered the lowering of both the United States Flag, and the Hawai'i State Flag to half-staff on all federal, state and county buildings in Hawaii from sunrise to sunset on March 3, 2009 to honor the passing of Specialist Walter.