



A former Gator Girl flying missions in Kuwait could really use some Gator Support! Breanna Strand (pictured at left with her mom Cyndi) is serving her first tour of duty in a desolate area of Kuwait, giving air support for medical evacuations and assisting with the troop reduction program in Iraq. Read the letter from her mom to learn how to let Breanna know her Gator Pals care!

From Breanna's mother, Cyndi Strand
27th Street in Manhattan Beach
December 2011

"Breanna is a Naval Aviator – flying helicopters and based in San Diego (Coronado). She is a 2004 graduate of Mira Costa High School, a 2008 graduate of the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, and she received her Naval Aviator gold wings in October of 2010.

"Breanna was recently sent on her first deployment to Kuwait. She is the only female Navy pilot on an Army base in northern Kuwait. She will be stationed there until sometime in April or May. The base is in the far northern part of Kuwait – it is very desolate and empty – no trees, no grass. As she said to me, "The only color here is brown!"

"It is my goal to surprise her with a large amount of Christmas/Holiday cards to pick up her spirits and let her know that people do care for our men and women in the military. I want her to feel special and this is one way I hope to accomplish that. I would also like to thank the other members of her squadron so that they know how supportive we are of them also. A second card sent to the entire squadron would brighten all 70+ of the squadron members. This Navy squadron is based on an Army base and gives air support for medical evacuation (Medevac) missions as well as assisting the troop reduction program currently occurring in Iraq.

"To that end, if you are willing, please sign and send two cards from you or your family. If you wished to include a picture of yourself or your family, I know Bre and her squadron would love that and it would put a personal touch to the card. It takes about 10 days for mail to reach her in Kuwait so the cards should be mailed ASAP. All that's needed is a regular 44 cent stamp. I know that all of them will be so pleased and it will make the holidays much brighter. Thank you."

Address for Breanna:
Lt. JG Breanna Strand
2515th NAAD
Camp Buehring, Kuwait
APO AE 09330

Address for Squadron:
c/o LCDR Billy Walsh, OIC
2515th NAAD
Camp Buehring, Kuwait
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