

A black woman from a St. Louis suburb, LaVena played the violin and was an honor roll student. She wanted to travel, and go to school...

She also wanted to make her own way, so she joined the Army, was sent to Iraq, and eight days before her 20th birthday she was dead. The Army report stated: suicide.

Instead, she became the first woman soldier from Missouri to die in Iraq.

But evidence points to a struggle preceding her death...a broken nose, two loose front teeth, a busted lip...a blood trail outside the contractor's tent where her body was found...no indication she had suicidal thoughts, no measurable gun powder on her hands.



Because of a recent flurry of news stories, renewed call for an investigation of her death leads to other questions:

Is the US Army covering up?

How did she really die?



LaVena Johnson

12,000 signatures demanding investigation have been delivered to the Armed Services Committees of the House and Senate by retired US Army Reserve Colonel Ann Wright. On behalf of all women soldiers, help break the cycle of abuse and cover-up by joining our campaign. Go to:

www.LaVenaJohnson.com

On April 9, 2008, Dr. John and Linda Johnson, parents of LaVena, accompanied Retired Colonel Ann Wright to Washington, D.C.

The Johnsons presented members of Congress with evidence to support their claim that their 19 year old daughter was beaten, raped, shot, her body severely burned, and that there was an attempt to burn down the contractor's tent with her body still in it.

Among those Congresspersons meeting with the Johnsons was US Rep. Ike Skelton, senior Democrat and Chairperson of the House Arms Services Committee (HASC).

While talking to Rep. Skelton, Colonel Wright suggested a Congressional hearing.

The Johnsons have since been advised that an HASC investigation is underway. As for the hearing, they have been told no decision has been made at this point.

Persons who would like to assist the Johnson family in getting justice for their daughter are urged to contact their Congresspersons and Senators.

Please encourage them to request House (HASC) and Senate Arms Services Committee (SASC) hearings on behalf of the family.

Read Col. Ann Wright's assessment of LaVena's death and other abuse of women in the Army...

Is There an Army Cover Up of Rape and Murder of Women Soldiers?

by Ann Wright, April 28, 2008

www.commondreams.org/archive/2008/04/28/8564

Learn more about the LaVena Johnson story at
www.LaVenaJohnson.com