

# LILBURN ARMY CORPORAL WILLIAM LONG

William (Bill) Long entered the Army on October 8, 2001, at Fort Benning, Ga., where he took his basic, advanced infantry, and jump school training. His first assignment was with the prestigious 1st Battalion, 3rd Infantry Regiment, "The Old Guard" (Honor Guard), at Fort Myer, Virginia. There he participated in over 600 missions of national and international importance, ranging from funerals in Arlington National Cemetery, missions at the White House, Wreath Laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns, and Department of the Army and General Officer Retirements.

He volunteered for service in Iraqi Freedom and was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Benning. Long deployed to Iraq in January of 2005. On June 18, 2005, while on a mounted patrol as a gunner in Buritz, Iraq, enemy forces using rocket-propelled grenades hit his Humvee. He died instantly. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery near the site of his Old Guard unit.



*(L to R) Artist Sherry Needle, Lee Cordner and Governor Sonny Perdue view portrait of Cpl. William Long, one of the Georgia fallen hero portraits on view in the Georgia State Capitol rotunda through February 2.*

On May 30, 2007, Long and Staff Sgt. Veverka had a \$10,000,000 Maintenance Facility at Ft. Myer dedicated to their memory. Both had served with the Old Guard. Long's military awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart

*next page*

Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Meritorious Unit Commendation, Combat Infantryman Badge, and Parachutist Badge.

## ART FROM THE HEART

The Atlanta Fine Arts Leagues inaugural community project is "Art From the Heart" where local artists donate their time and talents to paint professional quality oil paintings of Georgia soldiers that have died in the line of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan. The portraits are then presented to the families in appreciation of their sacrifice. If someone you know would like to be a recipient of a portrait, please email us at: [AtlantaFineArtsLeague@Yahoo.com](mailto:AtlantaFineArtsLeague@Yahoo.com)

Sherry Needle painted a portrait of William (Bill) Long of Lilburn and presented it to his father Lee Cordner and his mother Sue Cordner. The portrait, along with others, is on view in the Georgia State Capitol rotunda through February 2. The families of the fallen were honored by State Senator Douglas and Governor Perdue on January 24 in a touching display of gratitude.