

# Bardstown soldier killed in Iraq crash

By Mark Maynard  
Kentucky Today

BARDSTOWN - A soldier from Kentucky has been identified as one of the six U.S. soldiers inside a plane that went down in Iraq on Friday, according to the U.S. Department of War.

Tech. Sgt. Ashley B. Pruitt, 34, was from Bardstown in Nelson County.

The DoW listed the five other airmen who also died in the crash:

Maj. John A. Klinner, 33, of Auburn, Alabama; Capt. Ariana G. Savino, 31, of Covington, Washington;

Capt. Seth R. Koval, 38, of Mooresville, Indiana;

Capt. Curtis J. Angst, 30, of Wilmington, Ohio; and

Tech. Sgt. Tyler H. Simmons, 38, of Columbus, Ohio.

All six airmen were supporting Operation Epic Fury at the time of the crash. The incident is under investigation. U.S. Central Command said in a post on X early Friday that their KC-135 plane went down at approximately 2 p.m. ET Thursday in western Iraq,

Sgt. Pruitt was assigned to the 6th Air Refueling Wing, MacDill



KENTUCKY TODAY

Ashley Pruitt of Bardstown was among six airmen killed last week during Operation Epic Fury during a refueling crash.

Air Force Base, Florida, and was supporting Operation Epic Fury at the time of her death.

Congressman Andy Barr reacted to the death of Tech Sgt. Pruitt on social media.

"Praying for the family and friends of TSgt. Ashley Pruitt of Bardstown. God bless her memory and her ultimate sacrifice in Operation Epic Freedom to

rid the world of the largest state sponsor of terror. Her legacy will never be forgotten."

Sg. Pruitt is the second soldier from Kentucky who has been killed during Operation Epic Fury. Sgt. Benjamin Pennington of Glendale was the other. He died on March 9 after an enemy attack at Prince Sultan Air Base in Saudi Arabia.

# Beshear vetoes GOP-backed school scholarship bill

By Mckenna Horsley  
Kentucky Lantern

Democratic Gov. Andy Beshear has vetoed a GOP-backed bill that would opt Kentucky into a scholarship program for K-12 students promoted by the Trump administration and benefiting from a new federal tax credit.

"Kentuckians have said loud and clear: Public dollars should only be used for public education. The Republican supermajority hasn't listened. I have," Beshear said in a Friday Social media post with his full veto message attached. "Today, I am standing with our people and vetoing House Bill 1."

Though three Democratic lawmakers voted in favor of House Bill 1, members of the party have criticized the program as a voucher system to fund "school choice options" like private and charter schools at the expense of public schools. Republicans have countered that the bill would allow all K-12 students and their families to potentially benefit from education assistance grants funded by a federal tax credit created under the One Big Beautiful Bill Act



KENTUCKY LANTERN

Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear waves to the audience after delivering his State of the Commonwealth address on Jan. 7 in Frankfort.

(OBBBA) touted by President Donald Trump — without having to appropriate state tax dollars.

HB 1 would allow Kentucky K-12 students to receive scholarships for private school tuition and other education assistance funded by donations from people receiving the federal tax credit that will become available in 2027 under legislation the OBBBA passed by Congress last year. In addition to tuition, the scholarships may be used for tutoring services, books, internet access and more.

In arguing against the bill, Democrats pointed to rejections of earlier GOP-backed proposals to fund private and charter schools with public dollars from the state Supreme Court and by Kentucky voters. Beshear recalled the vote against the constitutional

amendment in 2024 and the recent high court's decision in his veto message.

Beshear wrote that he knows his veto will be "politicized" and some may respond by attacking teachers' unions, "as if they are malevolent actors, when in reality, they are our neighbors and friends who have taken on critical jobs despite the low pay." He added that they "should be appreciated instead of attacked."

He also had words for those who may say he did not "buck my political party, as if some edict has been sent to all Democrats on this or any issue." Beshear said that when he was Kentucky's attorney general, he filed lawsuits against presidents of both parties as evidence that he has "voiced my criticism and given credit to presidents of both parties."

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### Public Notices

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Arvin and Manning, PLLC seeks the identity and location of Unknown Spouses of Barbara Branso who may have interest in the real property located at 521 N Lexington Ave, Wilmore, KY. Please contact us at (859) 885-4106 with information.

Jessamine Journal: Mar. 19, 2026  
**BRANSO**

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

##### CASE NUMBER 26-P-53

NOTICE is hereby given that David Michael Durham has qualified as Executor of the estate of Donna Durham, deceased of Jessamine County, Kentucky on February 23, 2026. All persons having claims against the said estate are requested to present the same properly proven as required by law to the aforesaid David Michael Durham, 1096 Pollard Road, Nicholasville, KY 40356 Or to his, attorney, Heather Warren, 108 W Maple Street, Nicholasville, KY 40356 no later than August 23, 2026.

Doug Fain  
Jessamine County Circuit Clerk

Jessamine Journal: Mar. 19, 2026  
**EST/DURHAM, D.**

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

##### CASE NUMBER 26-P-50

NOTICE is hereby given that Darlene Cuzick has qualified as Executrix of the estate of Michael C. Cuzick, deceased of Jessamine County, Kentucky on February 23, 2026. All persons having claims against the said estate are requested to present the same properly proven as required by law to the aforesaid Darlene Cuzick, 230 Creek Ridge Drive, Nicholasville, KY 40356 Or to her, attorney, Martin

## Public Notices

East, 400 South Main, Nicholasville, KY 40356 no later than August 23, 2026.

Doug Fain  
Jessamine County Circuit Clerk

Jessamine Journal: Mar. 19, 2026  
**EST/CUZICK, M.**

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

##### CASE NUMBER 26-P-56

NOTICE is hereby given that David Gillispie has qualified as Executor of the estate of Terry L. Gillispie, deceased of Jessamine County, Kentucky on February 24, 2026. All persons having claims against the said estate are requested to present the same properly proven as required by law to the aforesaid David Gillispie, 700 Twin Pines Way, Lexington, KY 40514 Or to his, attorney, David R. Choate, 216 E. Cumberland Street, Albany, KY 42602 no later than August 24, 2026.

Doug Fain  
Jessamine County Circuit Clerk

Jessamine Journal: Mar. 19, 2026  
**EST/GILLISPIE, T.**

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

##### MASTER COMMISSIONER'S SALE

**FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2026, AT 10:00 A.M.**  
**JESSAMINE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, SECOND FLOOR COURTROOM 101 NORTH MAIN STREET, NICHOLASVILLE, KY**

In order to comply with the orders of the Jessamine Circuit Court, the Master Commissioner will sell the property described in actions found and described below in the Jessamine County Courthouse, Second Floor, 101 North Main Street, Nicholasville, Kentucky. Said property shall be sold to raise the amounts set forth below plus interest and other costs as stated in the actions referenced. The sale of said property will be subject to the following terms and conditions: At the time of sale the successful bidder shall either pay full cash or make a deposit of 10% of the purchase price with the balance on credit for 30 days. If the purchase price is not paid in full, the successful bidder shall be required to execute a bond at the time of sale with sufficient surety approved by the Master Commissioner prior to the sale to secure the unpaid balance of the purchase price. The bond shall be for the unpaid balance of the purchase price and bear interest at the rate of the judgment bears, from the date of the sale until paid, and shall have the force and effect of a judgment. If the purchaser fails to pay the deposit or post a suf-

Jessamine Journal: Mar. 12 and 19, 2026  
**MARCH 2025 COMM SALE**

## Public Notices

icient bond, the property will immediately be resold. The purchaser shall be required to assume and pay all taxes and assessments upon the property for the current tax year and all subsequent years. The sale of the real estate shall be made subject to such right of redemption as may exist in favor of the United States of America or the defendant(s), and all zoning and building regulations, restrictions, ordinances, easements, covenants, and rights-of-way, of record, or otherwise. The property shall be sold "As Is" "Where Is" and without warranty. Risk of loss shall pass to the purchaser upon execution of bond of sale or payment of the purchase price in full whichever occurs first. Possession of the real property will be given to the purchaser upon confirmation of the report of sale by the Jessamine Circuit Court, full payment of the purchase price plus any interest due, and delivery of a Commissioner's Deed to the purchaser. The property addresses contained herein are for convenience only. All properties will be sold pursuant to the legal description contained in the actions referenced herein. Further information regarding these sales, past sales, upcoming sales and FAQs can be found at [www.JessamineMC.com](http://www.JessamineMC.com).

**SALE 1 - 801 Woodspointe Way, Wilmore, 24-CI-759 Judgment amt. \$103,223.25, Parcel ID# 024-30-18-005.00**

**SALE 2 - 121 Lindsey Drive, Nicholasville, 25-CI-61 Judgment amt. \$62,630.96, Parcel ID# 057-40-22-004.00.** This property is being sold subject to mortgage to Fifth Third Bank in the amount of \$89,700.06 plus interest, costs, and fees.

**Ellen L. Miller, Master Commissioner**  
102 West Maple Street  
Nicholasville, KY 40356  
859-885-1550

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