

**Sharon Knight**  
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Sharon (Yearling) Knight is the middle child of 5 born to the union of the Late Reverend Douglas Benjamin Yearling, Sr. and the Late Elder Celestine (Jones) Yearling.

She and her spouse Minister Gregory Knight have 8 children, 8 grandchildren and are members of Little Rock Missionary Baptist Church in Foley.

A 1980 graduate of Foley High School, Sharon excelled both scholastically and in track & field.

Shortly after graduation, she enlisted in the United States Army. During her 24 year military career, she reached numerous milestones and accolades:

- Attended night courses at the University of Maryland to become a Certified Nutritionist.
- Earned the US Army Master Fitness Award on multiple occasions.
- Attained Air Assault qualification, while serving with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, KY.
- Became certified and served as an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Advisor.
- Was an Instructor for the Primary Leadership Development Course.
- Served as a Battalion Retention NCO.
- Earned the coveted Manchu Buckle while stationed in South Korea with the 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (which is rarely done by a female).
- Served on the Advisory Counsel of Retired 4-Star General and the 38<sup>th</sup> Army Chief-Of-Staff, Raymond T. Odierno.

In the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attack, Sharon was reassigned to the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division at Fort Hood, Texas. In early 2002, her unit deployed to Iraq. At the rank of Sergeant First Class, she was the only female on the Advance Assault Team. While in Iraq, she worked in the Military Intelligence Section.

Since her retirement in 2004, In addition to spoiling her grandkids, she has also been quite active in the church and community.