

**SOTC – OPERATION BARNABAS**  
**Veteran of the Month Prayer Card**

**May 2024**

**RACHEL RIOS**



**US ARMY NURSE CORPS 1993-1996**

Rachel grew up in Darien, IL. After High School, she attended the University of Chicago and received her BA in Biology in 1986, while also working in the DNA lab. She went back to school and received her BA in Nursing from UNC Chapel Hill in 1993. After graduating, she enlisted in the Army.

As an Army nurse, she worked at Womack Army Hospital in Fort Bragg, NC. Initially, working in the mother/baby unit, and with increased responsibilities and training new nurses, she was promoted to Head Nurse of the unit. She was honorably discharged in 1996 at the rank of 1LT.

Sadly, divorced from her husband after three years, Rachel worked four years as a traveling nurse for various hospitals in North Carolina, Georgia, Maine and Florida. Working for American Mobile Nurses, her preference was cardiology. A serious injury, however, sidelined her for several years. Missing her profession, she went back to nursing in 2007 and is currently employed by a Health Care staffing company. She is sent where needed for weeks or months at a time. Her preference being jobs outside of the hospital environment, such as clinics, colleges, and private homes.

Rachel is an avid crafter, and is very proud of her Philippine heritage. She is currently undertaking projects that bring her closer to her heritage such as weaving, sewing, and beading authentic articles of jewelry worn by family members. She enjoys reading and music, and is active in the SOTC Adult Choir and Handbells Choir. She also enjoys dancing and is currently taking Latin dancing classes.