

# Capt Tamara Long Archuleta

Capt Tamara Long Archuleta was a 1999 University of New Mexico Detachment 510 graduate.

On the evening of 23 March, 2003, Komodo 11 Flight took off from an undisclosed location in Afghanistan on a medivac mission. Weather was poor with low ceiling and visibility combined with low illumination. Komodo 11 Flight (Komodo 11/12) consisted of two fully loaded USAF HH-60G Pavehawks with a crew of 6 each. Their mission was to fly to recover a wounded Afghani child who desperately needed medical attention. Flying through the dark night on NVG goggles, the formation linked up with a C-130 to conduct aerial refueling. During the refueling, Komodo 11 crashed into the side of a mountain, tragically killing all 6 crewmembers. Komodo 12 and the C-130 aborted the mission, searched for survivors and returned to base.



