



SHELLEY MORGAN IS RUNNING FOR HOSPITAL CORPSMAN 2ND CLASS SARAH F. BURNS

An Anne Arundel woman was among the five sailors killed Tuesday, August 31, 2021, in a U.S. Navy helicopter crash about 60 nautical miles off the coast of San Diego.

Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Sarah F. Burns, of Severna Park was among the crew members killed Aug. 31 when an MH-60S Seahawk helicopter assigned to the Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 8 crashed into the sea. She was 31 years old, U.S. Navy officials confirmed Sunday.



Sarah F. (Peterson) Burns passed away heroically at the age of 31 on August 31st, 2021, in a helicopter crash during a Navy training mission off the coast of San Diego, California. Sarah was born in Salisbury, Maryland, and raised in Severna Park, Maryland, with her twin sister Micah. She was an active member of the track and lacrosse teams at Severna Park High School and graduated in 2007. After high school, Sarah attended Anne Arundel Community College, where she ran cross-country and played lacrosse.

Sarah decided to follow in her paternal grandfather's footsteps and enter military service, joining the Navy in August of 2010. After basic training and technical school in Pensacola, Sarah reported to Naval Station Norfolk to her first command, Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron Fourteen, as an aircraft mechanic on the MH-53E. After two years, she transferred to the "Red Wolves" of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 84, serving until 2016. Next, Sarah moved west to San Diego, California, where she joined the "Firehawks" of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 85.





After her deployment in Africa, she decided to cross-rate to be a Hospital Corpsman SMT (Search and Rescue Medical Technician). This career change was no easy hurdle, but one she was extremely passionate about. It required Sarah to endure two different training locations ending with Survival Evasion Resistance Escape (SERE) school.

After completing a most challenging year of training, she checked into Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron Eight, "Eightballers," as a fully qualified Corpsman in November 2020.

Sarah met the love of her life, Lucas, in January of 2017. It didn't take long for them to realize they wanted to spend the rest of their lives together. They soon married on the beach in La Jolla, California, on August 12th, 2017. They spent the four years they had together, making the most of every moment. They enjoyed fitness, the beach, their dogs, traveling, camping, and exploring the culinary world that San Diego had to offer. Sarah and Lucas consistently looked for more things to challenge themselves as a couple while making plans for the future. Although four years was never enough time, the entire time was spent as a honeymoon. Sarah was a kind, compassionate, and quiet person who deeply loved others and enjoyed serving her country. She was humble, goal-oriented, and worked tirelessly to be the best that she could be in all her endeavors.

