The Legacy of American Eagle Flight 4184

October 30, 2014
Welcome

Welcome to the Legacy of American Eagle Flight 4184 event. Our goal this evening is to honor the memory of those lost by exploring the many changes that resulted, in full or in part, from the Flight 4184 tragedy. Through investigation, advocacy, determination, persistence and courage, those who acted to effect change made a profound difference that continues to resonate today. As we look back and reflect on that fateful day 20 years ago, we hope some will find comfort in understanding the full Legacy of Flight 4184: that passengers are safer, pilots are more effectively trained, aircraft are better designed, responders are more prepared, and there is coordination of support services for survivors and family members following commercial transportation disasters.
In memory of the 64 passengers and 4 crew members aboard American Eagle Flight 4184.

C/A Orlando Aguiar
Bruce B. Anglemyer
Mark Scott Bailenson
Nancy G. Baker
Joseph Beugeny, Jr.
Pierre Bonneau
Timothy Bruce Bramley
Jeff Burrell
Jose V. Calderon
Jose W. Calderon
Richard Cunningham
Gino DeMarco
Richard J. Denney
John B. Droy
Cheryl Hanisch Dwyer
Kenneth R. Ernst
Valerie J. Ferryman
G. Kathy Fulle
F/O Jeff Gagliano
John F. (Jay) Ganong, Jr.
Ian (Gabby) Garbutt
R.A. Griffio Jr.
Adrian Grimberg
Gilda Grimberg
Semy Grimberg
Elizabeth Ann Guba
Patricia Henry
Patrick Henry
F/A Amanda Holberg
Peter A. Johnson
Wan Suk Ko
David R. Landes
Brigitte M. Laroche
Kenneth Leech
Dr. Patricia M. Masilo
John Joseph MacDonald, Jr.
Elieen L. McDavid
Jason A. McGee
Elizabeth McKay
Robert Glenn McMillin
Jerry Michel
F/A Sandi Modaff
Alan Moldawsky
Anthony D. Moore
Lewise G. Morris
William P. Novichuk
Joga S. Parmar
Alan A.C. Ramm
William J. Reading
Serge J. R. Robitaille
Javier Alonso Sayles Vargas
David James Shellberg
Frank M. Sheridan
Dr. Elkin Thamsanqa Sithole
Sven-Lennart Sjöberg
Eva Maria Sjöberg
Alison M. Smith
David A. Snyder
Kenneth B. Spencer
Bernice M. Stackhouse
Hamilton L. Stackhouse
Bradley R. Stansberry
Maurice B. Stein
Jerry Thomas
Dana L. Thompson
Barbara Jean Tribble
Elizabeth I. Tweedie
Tom H. Wright
October 30, 2014

To the friends, families, and first responders of American Eagle Flight 4184,

As you are gathered here today, I write to personally thank you for your selfless efforts to ensure that the memory of this tragic event lives on in the hearts and minds of the people in the Roselawn community and in this state as a whole. Your strength in the aftermath of this tragedy stands as a testament to the compassion and resilience of the Hoosier spirit.

It is written, the Lord is close to the brokenhearted, and that will be my prayer for you. To the friends and families of the souls lost, I offer my sincerest, deepest condolences and pray that you might find comfort in your faith, in this community, and in the absolute assurance that your loved ones will never be forgotten.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Pence
Governor of Indiana
October 31, 2014

Families of 4184
309 East Rand Road Suite 192
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

To the Family Members of American Eagle Flight 4184:

First of all, I wish to express my regret that I am not there with you today. I had planned to attend but I am needed elsewhere and I thank the organizers for sharing my thoughts with you.

On this solemn occasion, while I cannot be with you in person, know that I am with you in my thoughts and my prayers. I was happy to learn that some of our investigators were able to join you for today’s memorial service.

I was honored to serve our country for seven years as Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board. Unfortunately, one aspect of that job involved seeing first hand the human tragedy that results when something in our transportation infrastructure goes wrong.

This was no less true on October 31, 1994, when the world that many of you had lived was forever altered. Each of you represents a spouse who didn’t come home or a child you will never see again or a parent you lost much too soon.

I happened to be in Chicago when I got word of flight 4184 and arrived in Roselawn within hours. It was my responsibility to organize the investigation but in the subsequent days I had the honor of meeting many of you. The memory of that night, and the months that followed, will be with me always. Your many kind gestures to me and my team greatly helped the investigation of this tragedy.

There is nothing I or anyone else can say or do that will replace the loss you suffered that night, but let me tell you that this tragedy played a part in significant changes still being felt today.

Results of our investigation of the Roselawn crash were instrumental in changes to federal regulations covering these so-called regional airlines. Within months of the crash, new rules were passed placing these airlines under the same rigorous rules that covered the major airlines. This one level of safety has resulted in a dramatic improvement in the safety record of these carriers.

Second, the experiences you endured in the wake of this crash helped lead to the establishment of federal rights for family members of those who have perished in airline crashes. Previously, as you know only too well, family affairs responsibilities rested solely with the airline that had the crash.

There are many family members from subsequent crashes who were able to benefit from this new reality who do not appreciate the debt they owe you and others who did not have these federal resources offered to them.

On this solemn occasion, I hope you can take some solace in that. God bless all of you.

Kind Regards,

Jim Hall
Program

Reflection

Rev. Brent Wright

Tonight we will celebrate the legacy of the flight that cost so many so much—a legacy of positive change in large systems. We begin by acknowledging the human journey of loss and living, of grief and transformation, and reflecting on the fruit of 20 years of life and growth.

Local response to Flight 4184

Ray Chambers, PEM, Director, Newton County EMA

Mr. Chambers will highlight the local community support during the response to American Eagle Flight 4184. He will examine the development of the regional response to Natural and Man-made Emergencies stemming from Flight 4184 bringing into today.

American Eagle Flight 4184 Investigative Overview

Greg Feith, Aviation Safety and Security Expert
Charley Pereira, Transportation Safety and Security Consultant

Mr. Feith and Mr. Pereira will provide an overview of the changes that came about because of the accident and their peripheral effect on aircraft certification and pilot training. The results of the 4184 investigation also heightened awareness throughout the aviation community about the dangers of various icing events that had previously been unknown.

Continued on following page
The Evolution and Current State of Transportation Disaster Family Assistance

Paul S. Sledzik, Director, Transportation Disaster Assistance Division, NTSB

This presentation will examine the evolution and current state of family assistance following transportation accidents. The passage of the Aviation Disaster Family Assistance Act in 1996 and the subsequent task force (which included family members, government agency officials, and air carrier employees) led to the development of a unique and effective model for family assistance response. Since 1996, several nations, including the European Union, have passed aviation disaster family assistance laws. Recently, the International Civil Aviation Organization (a specialized agency of the United Nations) passed a global policy on aviation disaster assistance and published a guidance document that uses the U.S. model as its basis. The NTSB’s Transportation Disaster Assistance Division applies their model to all modes of transportation, and they have assisted federal, state, and local jurisdictions in developing disaster family assistance plans—all with the goal of ensuring that family members and survivors of disasters are provided the services and information they seek.
Speakers

Brent Wright

Brent Wright’s dad, Tom Wright, died in the crash we remember this weekend. Brent was a student at Purdue University when the crash occurred and he eventually earned degrees in engineering, education, and divinity. After teaching middle school science for several years, Brent became an ordained United Methodist clergyperson and currently serves as pastor of Broad Ripple United Methodist Church in Indianapolis. As long as he can remember, Brent wanted to fly. Understandably, the crash of Flight 4184 stalled that ambition, but only for a time; he earned his private pilot’s license in 2011 and is especially grateful that his wife, Lauren, and young son, Graham, are happy to be along for the ride.

Ray Chambers

Raymond Chambers, PEM is the Director of the Newton County Emergency Management Agency. His background includes over 34 years of Fire, Emergency Management Agency (EMA) and Emergency Medical Service (EMS) experience. Ray is a Medicolegal Death Investigator for the Newton County Coroner’s Office, Fire Chief of the Lincoln Township Fire Department, Vice Chairman of the LEPC, and a member of the County Health Board, Indiana District 1 Planning Council and the Northwest Indiana Information Sharing and Security Alliance. Ray also holds positions with various other organizations and has earned numerous certifications in Haz-Mat, Fire, NIMS, CBRNE, Wildland and CERT.

Greg Feith

Mr. Feith is a former National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) Senior Air Safety Investigator who has investigated well over 2500 aircraft incidents and accidents worldwide over his 34 year career. He was the Investigator-In-Charge for the Flight 4184 accident.

Greg holds a BS degree in Aeronautical Studies from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida and is also an adjunct professor. He is an active pilot with an FAA Airline Transport Pilot (ATP) certificate for single and multi engine land airplanes; Certified Flight Instructor (CFI) - Airplanes, Instrument Instructor (CFII), and Advanced Ground Instructor (AGI) & Instrument Ground Instructor (IGI) certificates.

During his more than 21 years with the NTSB, Greg served as the Investigator-In-Charge or U.S. Accredited Representative for the investigation of numerous high profile aircraft accidents that included Flight 4184; the Valujet DC-9 in-flight fire in the Florida Everglades in 1996; the USAir DC-9 windshear accident at Charlotte in 1994;
the Korean Air 747-300 controlled flight into terrain at Guam in 1997; the American Airlines MD-83 runway overrun at Little Rock in 1999; the Emery Worldwide Airlines DC-8 elevator control failure at Sacramento in 2000; the Swiss Air MD-11 in Peggy’s Cove, Nova Scotia in 1998; and the Silk Air Boeing 737 in Palembang, Sumatra in 1997.

Greg is currently in private practice as an international aviation and aerospace safety consultant specializing in aircraft accident investigation, reconstruction and various aspects of flight and ground safety. He is also widely known and respected for his numerous public speaking engagements and television appearances.

Charley Pereira

BS Aeronautical Engineering, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach Campus, 1989

Gulfstream G-IV Flight Test Co-Op from 1986 to 1988 while attending ERAU
Accident Investigator/Aerospace Engineer at NTSB from 1990 to 2005 working in Office of Research & Engineering (Vehicle Recorders and Vehicle Performance)

Notable major accident investigations at NTSB include:

Lockheed HTTB C-130 @ Marietta, GA – fly-by-wire rudder design logic flaw

White House Cessna 172 - domestic terrorism

ATR-72 @ Roselawn, IN – airframe icing system design and operational issues

USAF CT-43A (Boeing 737) @ Dubrovnik, Croatia with Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown aboard -controlled flight into terrain (CFIT) related to erroneous approach plate data, visibility, nav system performance, and USAF operational violations

TWA Flight 800 @ East Moriches, NY – center wing fuel tank flammability and explosion design and operational issues

Korean Air Flight 801 @ Guam – CFIT related to offset VOR/DME operational issues

AAL Flight 1420 @ Little Rock, AR – operational issues related to thunderstorm at field, piloting techniques/knowledge/training, and failure to execute a go-around

9-11 Commission – sole NTSB employee selected by Commission to serve on staff – duties included investigation, reconstruction, and animation of flight paths and events for all aircraft and FAA/DOD ATC and Command/Control facilities
Beech King Air @ Eveleth, MN involving Senator Paul Wellstone – failure to maintain airspeed on final approach resulting in low altitude stall, roll-off, and crash

Space Shuttle Columbia re-entry and in-flight break-up – responsible for FAA radar data analysis design/planning (first-ever radar tracking over 200,000 feet altitude using FAA radars), software and process development, and assistance with trajectory analysis and search grid direction

President of Transportation Safety & Security Consulting, Inc. 2005-Present

Paul S. Sledzik

Paul Sledzik is Director of the NTSB’s Transportation Disaster Assistance Division (TDA), a position he has held since October 2010. Paul and his staff coordinate family assistance in all modes of transportation in conjunction with local, state, and federal agencies, non-governmental agencies, and transportation operators. Since the office was established in 1996, TDA has responded to over 150 transportation accidents.

Prior to this position, Paul served as the manager of medicolegal operations for the TDA Division for six years. Before joining the NTSB, he served for six years as the team leader for the Region 3 Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team, a division of the US Department of Health and Human Services, where he managed a team of 100 in mass fatality response. During his career, he participated in the response to over 30 mass fatality events and transportation accidents.

Trained as a forensic anthropologist, Paul has served as a consultant and advisor to several federal and non-governmental agencies on issues of human identification and disaster response. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences and his scientific articles have appeared in professional journals and textbooks.
We would like to thank the people listed below for their contributions to and support of the 20-year commemoration:

Larry Albanese       Sue Heaton
Dave Allison         Jim Hurd
Sandy Appleby        Ken Jenkins
Micah Bell           Jeff Johnson
Jeanne Brown         Jennifer Lee
Butch Cain           Kathie Hostetter
Melanie Carlsen      David Miller
Ray Chambers         Don Nolan
Robert Clifford      Charley Pereira
Paige Connelly       Tom Pope
Kyle Conrad          Thomas Prindable
Tim Drenth           Mickey Read
Kevin Durkin         Lucille Robbins
Tom Ellis            Paul Sledzik
Hans Emphraimson-Abt (deceased) Jan Sjöberg
Greg Feith           Lauren Tascione
Adrian Fulle         Mark Trinia
Kathy Garner          John Watkins
Russell Goutierez    Brent Wright
The Guerrero Family  Angie Valente
Jim Hall             Tony Zanger

Bachrach Awards
Blast Masters, LLC
Calumet Park Cemetery
Countryside Landscape, LLC
General Shale Brick
Indiana Brick Corporation
Lincoln Township Volunteer Fire Department
Newton County Commissioners
Newtown County Building Commissioner
Newtown County Sheriff’s Department
Newton County Emergency Management Agency
Governor Mike Pence, state of Indiana
Printing Partners
Roselawn United Methodist Church
Carol Smith & the staff at Radisson Hotel at Star Plaza

For those individuals we may have inadvertently missed, we sincerely apologize.
Notes
Notes
“To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die.”

- Thomas Campbell