FLIGHT 232 REMEMBERED

Written by Woody Gottburg Friday, July 19 2013 16:18

FRIDAY MARKS THE 24TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CRASH OF UNITED FLIGHT 232 IN SIOUX CITY.

THE JETLINER THAT WAS BOUND FROM DENVER TO CHICAGO LOST ALL OF ITS HYDRAULICS AND CRASHED AT SIOUX GATEWAY AIRPORT AROUND 4PM ON JULY 19TH, 1989.

GARY BROWN WAS EMERGENCY SERVICES DIRECTOR FOR WOODBURY COUNTY THAT DAY, A POSITION HE STILL HOLDS TODAY.

WHILE EVERYONE REMEMBERS CAPTAIN AL HAYNES AS THE PILOT OF THE AIRLINER, BROWN SAYS ANOTHER PILOT WHO WAS A PASSENGER ON 232 WAS ALSO A HERO IN TRYING TO MAINTAIN CONTROL OF THE PLANE:

{audio}F232.mp3{/audio}

FITCH HELPED CAPTAIN HAYNES STEER THE PLANE BY USING THE THROTTLES.

BROWN SAYS HE WAS WORKING ON AN EMERGENCY PLAN FOR AN UPCOMING AIR SHOW WHEN HE WAS ALERTED TO THE PLANE IN TROUBLE.

EVERY NEARBY COMMUNITY WAS CONTACTED TO SEND HELP TO PREPARE FOR THE POSSIBLE CRASH LANDING:

{audio}F232A.mp3{/audio}

WHILE 111 OF THE 296 PEOPLE ON BOARD PERISHED IN THE CRASH, THE RESCUERS HELPED SAVE 185 LIVES.

A SPECIAL CEREMONY IS BEING PLANNED NEXT YEAR FOR THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY

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