



---

Release Date: August 17, 2020

Contact: S. Brooke Neel, Director of Programs, [info@flight93nationalmemorial.org](mailto:info@flight93nationalmemorial.org)

## FAA Investigator in Charge to Discuss Recovering Flight 93 Black Boxes

**Somerset, PA:** The Friends of Flight 93 Virtual Speaker Series continues Thursday, August 20 at 7 PM EDT featuring first responder Tony James as the special guest. The link to register for the Virtual Speaker Series is available at <https://bit.ly/2Fd8n9F>.

The live education program features Tony James, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Air Safety Investigator and FAA Lead Investigator in Charge who responded to the Flight 93 crash site on September 11, 2001. James' primary responsibility was to recover the black boxes which were key to understanding the final moments of the crash of Flight 93.

James summarized what it meant to recover the black boxes from Flight 93. "From the time I got there, I knew how important this was going to be for them to find those boxes . . . The voice recorder and the flight data recorder [were] the most critical of all the evidence because the cockpit voice recorder . . . basically told the story of what happened inside the airplane. The flight data recorder told what happened to the airplane itself."

The Friends of Flight 93 Speaker Series showcases individuals with direct ties to the Flight 93 story and the response to the September 11, 2001 terror attacks to share their personal experiences. The education programs provide a unique opportunity to hear stories from relatives of the 40 passengers and crew members, local, regional and federal first responders, investigators, and others who share how the events of September 11, 2001 changed their lives and the country.

Programs are usually held at the memorial's Learning Center free of charge to the public, however, in response to the national health crisis the Friends have adapted the format to a new virtual series. The Friends plan to continue offering more virtual programs in the future.

For more information on the Speaker Series or other programs and events supported by the Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial, visit <http://www.flight93friends.org/programs-events/overview>. To donate to support the Friends of Flight 93 and our educational programs, visit [911flight93.org](http://911flight93.org).

## **ABOUT THE FRIENDS OF FLIGHT 93 NATIONAL MEMORIAL**

Established in 2009, the Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial is the official nonprofit partner of Flight 93 National Memorial. The Friends' aim is to inform, honor and pay tribute to the heroes of Flight 93 by supporting the Memorial with volunteers and resources. The Friends' mission is to focus on awareness, education, volunteer support, preservation and stewardship. To learn more about the Friends, make a donation to support the memorial, or become a member visit [www.Flight93Friends.org](http://www.Flight93Friends.org).

## **ABOUT FLIGHT 93 NATIONAL MEMORIAL**

On September 24, 2002, President Bush signed into law the Flight 93 National Memorial Act. The Act created a new national park unit to commemorate the passengers and crew of Flight 93 who, on September 11, 2001, courageously gave their lives thereby thwarting a planned attack on our nation's capital. The memorial is near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, where Flight 93 crashed with the loss of its 40 passengers and crew. For more information on Flight 93 National Memorial visit [www.nps.gov/flni](http://www.nps.gov/flni).

###