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Air Traffic Controllers will Present at the Final Speaker Series Program of the Year

Shanksville, PA: The final program of the year for the Flight 93 Speaker Series will feature the perspectives of two former air traffic controllers who dealt with monitoring air-space for United Flight 93 on September 11, 2001.

Cleveland-based air traffic controller John Werth, who was responsible for monitoring Flight 93 on September 11, and was the first person to realize that the flight had been hijacked, will be one of the featured speakers. This will be the first time that Werth has spoken at Flight 93 National Memorial. “When the crash was confirmed, I felt anger, frustration, sadness, and loss,” said Werth when recalling the events that took place 17 years ago. “Even though I knew none of the victims personally, I always felt that I lost 40 people that day. But then, didn’t we all?”

Werth will be joined by Mal Fuller, watch supervisor of the Greater Pittsburgh International Airport control tower and RADAR room called a TRACON (Terminal Radar Approach Control), who oversaw the air traffic control tower that fateful day. Fuller has previously volunteered as a board member of the Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial and retired in 2016.

The programs are scheduled for noon and 2:00 pm on Saturday, August 18 and 1:00 pm on Sunday, August 19 in the memorial’s Learning Center. Admission is free. This will be the fourth program for the Speaker Series this year which has attracted approximately 1,200 visitors since May.

Now in its second year, the Flight 93 Speaker Series is a joint effort of the National Park Service and the Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial. The programming is presented by Somerset Trust Company. For more information on the Speaker Series or other events at Flight 93 National Memorial visit <http://www.flight93friends.org/programs-events/overview>.

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.

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.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

More than 22,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 417 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to home recreational opportunities. Learn more at: www.nps.gov.

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