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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial Announces Virtual Speaker Series with Bestselling Author Garrett Graff

Shanksville, PA — Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial is pleased to announce a special virtual installment of its 25-Year Observance speaker series, featuring acclaimed journalist and bestselling author Garrett Graff, author of *The Only Plane in the Sky: An Oral History of 9/11*, on **Thursday, August 27, 2026, at 6:00 PM, ET.**

Presented virtually to allow participation from audiences across the country, the conversation will explore the enduring importance of preserving firsthand accounts from September 11, 2001, and passing those stories on to future generations.

Graff's groundbreaking book, *The Only Plane in the Sky*, is widely regarded as one of the most comprehensive oral histories of September 11th, weaving together hundreds of personal interviews to create a vivid account of the people, places, and events that shaped that historic day.

During the program, Graff will discuss the power of oral history and the responsibility of collecting, preserving, and sharing personal narratives before they are lost to time. The conversation will examine how eyewitness accounts, survivor stories, family memories, and community experiences help audiences understand not only what happened on September 11, 2001, but also why the lessons of that day remain relevant today.

"Stories connect us to history in ways facts and dates alone cannot," said Donna Gibson, Executive Director of Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial. "As we approach the 25-Year Observance of September 11th, Garrett Graff's work reminds us that every person has a story worth preserving. Through these interviews and personal accounts, future generations can better understand the courage, sacrifice, and humanity demonstrated on that day."

The discussion will also explore why preserving testimony is essential to ensuring that the experiences of those who lived through September 11th continue to educate and inspire future generations.

The event is part of the Friends organization's ongoing commitment to education, remembrance, and civic engagement, particularly as the nation prepares to mark the 25-Year Observance of the 9/11/2001 attacks.

Registration information and participation details can be found at www.flight93friends.org/25-years/25year-observance-friends-connections-a-conversation-with-garrett-m-graff.

ABOUT GARRETT GRAFF

Garrett Graff is an award-winning journalist, historian, and bestselling author. His book, *The Only Plane in the Sky: An Oral History of 9/11*, brings together the voices of hundreds of individuals who experienced the events of September 11, 2001, creating one of the most significant oral histories ever compiled about the attacks.

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. As Friends of Flight 93, we welcome worldwide all who would join us in honoring the sacrifice and courage of the passengers and crew of Flight 93 by supporting the mission of the Flight 93 National Memorial with volunteers, resources, and civic engagement, so as to inspire all who visit with the Flight 93 story.

Visit www.flight93friends.org to learn more about Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial.

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