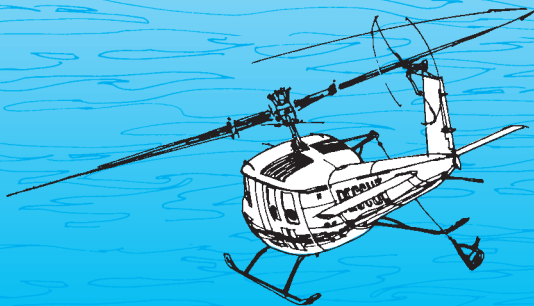
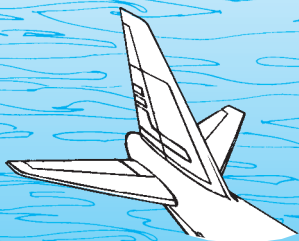


The HERO



of Flight 90

The crash of Air Florida Flight 90 (January 1982) into the Potomac River forms the dark and dismal background for the unusual, selfless act of “the man in the water.”

This man was seen clinging to the tail section of the plane with five other survivors. A police helicopter lowered a life-line and flotation ring to rescue him, but instead of grasping it to save his own life, he passed it on to one of the other survivors. This was repeated until all the others were rescued from the icy water.

When the helicopter returned for him half an hour later, it was too late! He had slipped under the water and was gone. His self-sacrifice will not soon be forgotten, especially by those who because of him were saved from certain death.

The Man on the Cross

A striking parallel to this story of selfless concern for others can be traced back many years ago to a Man whom we could call “the Man on the Cross.” He is the Son of God, the Creator, who came from heaven for the very purpose of dying on the cross for our sins.

You Too Can Be Rescued

The Bible says that though He always existed as God, He left that high position in heaven to become a man, so that He might take the punishment that you and I deserve for our sins. Think of it: Christ dying to save us – undeserving sinners that we are! Truly this is an act of love far greater than any other.

The Bible says, “While we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8). Hebrews 9:27-28 declares, “As it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgement, so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many” (the sins of all who receive Him as Savior).

Delay Could Mean Disaster

It may well have been fatal for those people clinging to the plane wreckage if they had not accepted the offer of rescue. It would be a tragedy if you refuse God’s love-offer of free salvation. You can avoid disaster by turning to that One who died for you on that cross. You must accept Christ as your personal Savior in order to escape God’s judgement for your sins.

“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name” (John 1:12).

I urge you to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord; then you will be saved forever.

— *C. Darling*

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