

Please help me with my concerns.

WHAT WENT WRONG???

The details of the Loretta Fuddy plane crash don't align with the reasonable behavior and responsibilities of those on board.

Look at the facts as reported in the newspaper and statements from the NTSB. The reliable Turbo-prop Cessna Grand Caravan departed from a small island airport with 8 passengers and one pilot. Shortly after take-off the plane's pilot reported a catastrophic engine failure. A report indicated that the plane was retrieved about a half mile from the land. At best the plane may have reached an altitude of 5,000 feet. After the engine failure, the pilot would immediately prepare for ditching by, feathering the engine (streamlining the propeller), setting a new plane flying attitude (lower nose), setting a new flying airspeed for maximum glide, radioing a mayday, turning into the wind, alerting the passengers to the imminent crash landing. After the crash the plane floated for about 25 minutes. The pilot's responsibility now shifts to the safety of the passengers. I would expect his first duty to deplane all the passengers with a secure life vest and instruct them to stay together for rescue. In addition the pilot would ensure any emergency equipment on board the plane deployed. Most over the water commercial flights carry inflatable life rafts. Ideally, a similar device would be deployed and the survivors and particularly the injured or fragile would be placed in the raft with the others working to support the safety of the group and the pilot (captain) directing their safety and the rescue operation.

We now know that the 8 passengers left the plane in good condition and the pilot left with minor head lacerations. A private plane and Coast Guard Plane spotted and circled the floating survivors shortly after the crash. The rescue helicopters picked up the survivors about 80 minutes after the crash about a mile from the impact area. With a Mayday announcement and the flights overhead all should have felt comfortable that help was on its way and a rescue imminent.

WHAT WENT WRONG?????

After the plane crash the survivors did not stay together. Two started swimming to the shore. One actually reached the shore and the other one never made it to shore and was rescued by a helicopter. Loretta Fuddy and Keith Yamamoto floated away from the other survivors. Keith later reported that he let go of the hand of Fuddy and she expired. Other passengers reported that Ms Fuddy was calm when she left the plane but Keith Yamamoto reported she began to hyperventilate, become anxious, and then slowly expired.

Here are some questions:

What did the other passengers know about Loretta Fuddy's condition and state of mind during this period?

Did all the passengers see Loretta condition go from calm (departing the plane and initially in the water) to anxious and hyperventilating, and then to solitude as Keith Yamamoto observed?

Did the floating survivors recognize that a rescue was imminent?

Why did the survivors not stay with the floating plane?

Why did the survivors not stay together holding on to each other or a floating object (any small boat captain knows – never leave the boat as long as it is floating)?

What did the pilot do to keep the passengers safe, informed, and together?

What safety equipment / flotation was taken from the plane?

What were the swimming abilities and leadership abilities of the passengers and the pilot?

I don't have much information about Loretta Fuddy and would like to know more from her friends, colleagues and family. Obviously as head of a key department in the State government she faced stress and challenges every day. How is a survival situation much different? Why was she not able to survive this life challenge and the other passengers had little trouble?

Please help me answer these questions by providing me the names and contact information for the passengers and the pilot.

Please help me by providing me with contact information for friends, health providers and family of Loretta Fuddy. In particular I will investigate Ms. Fuddy's swimming and water comfort (did she ever swim/surf in the ocean?) and her physical condition.