

# Pilot and copilot killed in collision between jet and fire truck at New York's LaGuardia Airport

BY JAKE OFFENHARTZ AND JENNIFER PELTZ  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK (AP) — Two people were killed and several others badly hurt when an Air Canada regional jet struck a fire truck on a runway while landing at New York's LaGuardia Airport, officials said.

The pilot and copilot were killed in the late Sunday night collision, which crushed the nose of the aircraft, while around 40 passengers and crew members were taken to area hospitals, some with serious injuries. Most have since been released from treatment, authorities said Monday.

Two Port Authority employees who were traveling in the fire truck also suffered injuries that were not believed to be life-threat-

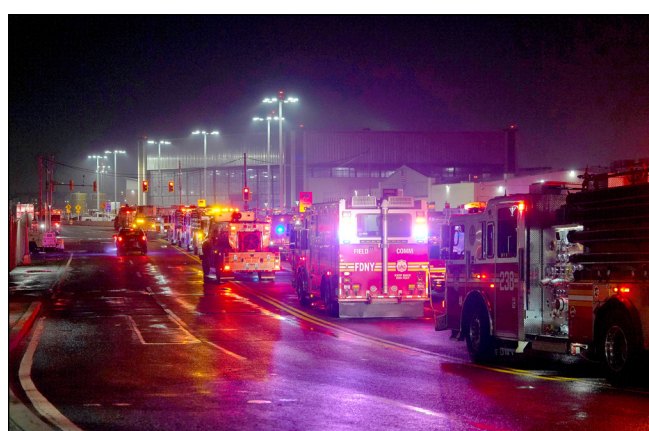
ening, said Kathryn Garcia, executive director of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which operates the airport.

The pilot and copilot were both based out of Canada, Garcia said during a news conference.

The airport will remain closed until at least 2 p.m. Monday to facilitate the investigation, which is being led by the National Transportation Safety Board.

The fire truck was traveling across the runway to respond to a separate incident aboard a United Airlines flight, whose pilot had reported "an issue with odor," said Garcia, who deferred additional questions about the sequence of events leading up to the crash to the NTSB.

There were 72 passengers and four crew members aboard the aircraft, a Jazz



RYAN MURPHY — FR172324 AP

**Firetrucks lineup outside LaGuardia Airport, Monday, March 23, 2026, in New York, after an Air Canada Jet collided with a Port Authority vehicle on a runway.**

Aviation flight operating on behalf of Air Canada, according to a statement from the airline. The flight originated at Montreal-Pierre Elliott Trudeau International Airport,

the major airport serving Montreal.

LaGuardia is one of 35 major airports across the country equipped with an advanced surface surveillance system that uses

radar and data from locator systems on planes to alert controllers to potential conflicts on runways.

Photos and videos from the scene showed severe damage to the front of the aircraft, with cables and debris hanging from a mangled cockpit. Nearby, a damaged emergency vehicle lay on its side.

Stairways used to evacuate passengers from the aircraft were pushed up to the emergency exits on the jet, a Bombardier CRJ. The impact left the jet with its crumpled nose tilted upward.

In the moments before the crash, an air traffic controller could be heard on a radio transmission giving clearance to a vehicle to cross part of the tarmac, then trying to stop it.

"Stop, Truck 1. Stop,"

the transmission says. The controller can then be heard frantically diverting an incoming aircraft from landing.

Air traffic controllers are not impacted by the partial government shutdown that has caused long delays at airport security checkpoints in recent days. They have been affected by past shutdowns.

As passengers straggled out of the airport into the dark early Monday, some described having arrived at LaGuardia hours before their flight, hoping to beat the lines.

Arturo Davidson said his Miami-bound flight was on the tarmac Sunday night when fellow passengers saw the collision or its aftermath and reactions rippled through the cabin.

## DIVINE

Continued from A4

Even so, the big question is this: "Can these experiences be true, or are they made-up tales of experiences that never happened?" After all, some claims seem absurd, while others border on theatrical. Philosopher Richard Swinburne can be of help here, pointing out two guiding principles when evaluating claims of religious experience. First, the principle of credulity holds that unless there is good evidence to the contrary, if a person claims a particular experience, then we should believe that they did experience what they claimed. Or, as already stated, "If I believe I have encountered God through some particular experience, then, all things considered, I should suppose that I have indeed encountered God." Swinburne's second principle in determining the truthfulness of a religious experience claim is the principle of testimony, which holds that testimony is generally reliable. That is, people typically do not give false testimony, nor are they often deceived by what

they experienced. At any rate, that does not ensure that all religious experience claims are truthful. In fact, I am quite certain that some, if not many, religious experience claims are pure fabrications. After all, the eighteenth-century skeptic David Hume once said, "It is nothing strange that men should lie in all ages." While I do not believe that is the general rule, I agree with Hume regarding a minority of cases. While Swinburne's two principles may seem somewhat weak and optimistic, they do not stand alone.

The argument that God makes Himself known to certain individuals at certain times through religious experiences is substantially reinforced by the sheer number of religious experience claims from all peoples, at all times, from all over the world. For example, there are approximately 25 million documented Near-Death Experience claims of encounters with the Divine alone. Surely, they are not all false, or even most of them false. While acknowledging that some claims of religious experiences are false, the credibility of at least some of these experiences is

further enhanced by their observed transformative power. Generally, transformative experiences leave lasting impressions on the experiencer, often bringing about rapid, significant, and enduring changes to their worldview. These worldview changes are most striking when occurring in those who strongly profess atheism. Francis Collins is just one case.

Francis Collins, MD, PhD, former Director of The Human Genome Project, was absolutely convinced that atheism was true until one day a dying patient challenged his disbelief. Unable to formulate a coherent response, Collins embarked on a quest to prove atheism true. Although the evidence for God began to convince him that his atheism might very well be false, it was not until he had a religious experience that brought him to conversion. Collins writes of the experience that occurred during a hiking trip in the Cascades of rounding a corner only to find a frozen waterfall hundreds of feet high. Utterly overwhelmed, Collins said, "I knew the search was over," and he "surrendered to Jesus Christ." The once

ardent atheist who had described Christianity as an "outmoded superstition" now found his worldview radically and permanently transformed by his religious experience.

Francis Collins is no isolated case. Blues musician and hardened atheist Jonny Lang had a religious experience he neither saw coming nor welcomed. Lang described his encounter with God as being "just like [the] wind that went right through my chest, and it stopped me in the hallway. It was unbelievable. . . . I just felt something welling up. Just burning in me, it was like I was throwing up, and the name 'Jesus' just came out

of my mouth." Lang started shaking all over. "I knew it was Jesus immediately from the moment I started shaking. It was like he just came up and introduced himself to me. I was just in shock. I thought I totally despised you, and you just did this to me. It's been a process ever since."

There are thousands and thousands of stories just like these; stories of radical worldview transformations in direct response to religious experiences. Actually, research indicates that twenty percent of the population has had a religious experience. That is about 51 million adult Americans. But what if only half are true claims? What if only

one percent is true? What if only ten of the 51 million religious experience claims are true? All it really takes is one to be true. And if you asked these ten people, "Is God dead? What do you think they would say? What would you say?"

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*Ty B. Kerley, DMin., is an ordained minister who teaches Christian apologetics and relief preaches in Southern Oklahoma. Dr. Kerley and his wife, Vicki, are members of the Waurika church of Christ, and live in Ardmore, OK. You can contact him at dr.kerley@isGoddead.com.*

## PASSOVER

Continued from A4

life and His death for us on the Cross. "When I see the blood I will passover you," is the theme of hope. What does Passover mean to us? How does the historical truth, fulfilled prophetically in Jesus, apply spiritually to us? The blood applied to the doorpost is a picture of the blood applied to our hearts. Jesus is our Passover of safety, salvation, and forgiveness for those who believe.

It's not when I see your good works, when I see your church membership, when I see how much you've given, or when I see how really good you are, but it's when I see the BLOOD. There is no remission of sin without the shedding of blood. What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus. As Peter states, "We are redeemed by the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." John the Baptist said, "Behold the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world."

This season is not about a bunny, but about a lamb, who died and was raised to life to save the lost. Thank God for the blood of Jesus.

## FOR RENT

**10 minutes from Nancy.**  
**2 bedroom mobile home. Private lot.**  
**Please call 606-305-5512**

**2 BR DUPLEX**  
**with garage in country but close to town.**  
**No HUD or No Pets**  
**\$950 plus deposit**  
**606-271-6060**



Four bedroom one and a half bath 1380 ft.<sup>2</sup> on 1 acre of land per PVA remodeled \$189900.00 2641 Slate Branch Rd. close to Slate Branch boat ramp call 606-305-9843 or text for additional information

## PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with KRS 424.220, the Pulaski County Fiscal Court wishes to inform the public that the audit for Fiscal Year 2019/2020 performed by the Kentucky Auditor of Public Accounts has been released and a copy of the complete auditor's report is available for public inspection at no cost in the office of the County Judge Executive during normal business hours. Any citizen may obtain a copy of the complete auditor's report for personal use at a rate not to exceed .25 per page. Copies of the financial statement prepared in accordance with KRS 424.220, when a financial statement is required by KRS 424.220, are available to the public at no cost at the Pulaski County courthouse located at 100 N. Main St. Somerset, KY. In compliance with KRS 91A.040(6), KRS 424.220(8) and 424.130(a) the Pulaski County Fiscal Court is publishing the following excerpts of the audit:

- Auditor's Opinion Letter
- Budgetary Comparison Schedules- Major Funds

Copies of the Audit have been provided to the local newspaper of general circulation, each news service and each local radio or television station which has on file a written request to be provided a statement.

## ATTENTION

Pulaski County Schools is now hiring bus drivers and we need your help. Full time drivers can receive medical, dental, supplemental insurance and retirement benefits. We will train you to get your CDL license and all the other training necessary to drive a school bus. We offer bonuses at the completion of each stage of training. We can start the training process immediately. If interested, apply online at Pulaski.net.

**Any questions, call 606-679-1123 and ask for Transportation.**