

[https://siouxcityjournal.com/news/al-haynes-who-piloted-crash-landed-flight-in-sioux-city/article\\_d0c5ea59-ff8e-555d-95d2-6f9d9fe9176e.html](https://siouxcityjournal.com/news/al-haynes-who-piloted-crash-landed-flight-in-sioux-city/article_d0c5ea59-ff8e-555d-95d2-6f9d9fe9176e.html)

**BREAKING**

TOP STORY

## Al Haynes, who piloted crash-landed Flight 232 in Sioux City in 1989, dies at 87

DAVE DREESZEN [ddreeszen@siouxcityjournal.com](mailto:ddreeszen@siouxcityjournal.com) Aug 26, 2019 Updated 1 hr ago

SALE! 90% OFF FOR 3 MONTHS



United Airlines Flight 232 Capt. Al Haynes, right, smiles at 7-month-old Ali Milford, held by her mother Katie Milford, while her father David Milford, a Flight 232 crash survivor, looks on following a July 2014 ceremony marking the 25th anniversary of the crash of the jumbo jet at Sioux Gateway Airport. Haynes died Sunday, a week shy of his 88th birthday.

Dawn J. Sagert, Sioux City Journal

SIOUX CITY -- Al Haynes, who piloted a crippled jumbo jet to a crash landing at Sioux Gateway Airport on July 19, 1989, helping save the lives of 184 passengers and crew, died Sunday.

Haynes, who passed away in a hospital in his hometown of Seattle following a brief illness, was one week shy of his 88th birthday.

At age 57, Haynes was captain of United Airlines Flight 232, which was bound from Denver to Chicago. After the DC-10 jet suffered a catastrophic failure of its tail-mounted engine, which resulted in the loss of many flight controls, Haynes and his crew were forced to make an emergency landing at the Sioux City airport. The jet stayed afloat while the pilots made a series of 360-degree turns to the right as it approached the airport.

PHOTOS: Flight 232 crash and recovery, 30 years later



On the final impact, the aircraft's right wing broke off, causing the fuselage to skid sideways and tumble, before sliding to a stop upside down in a corn field at the end of a secondary runway.

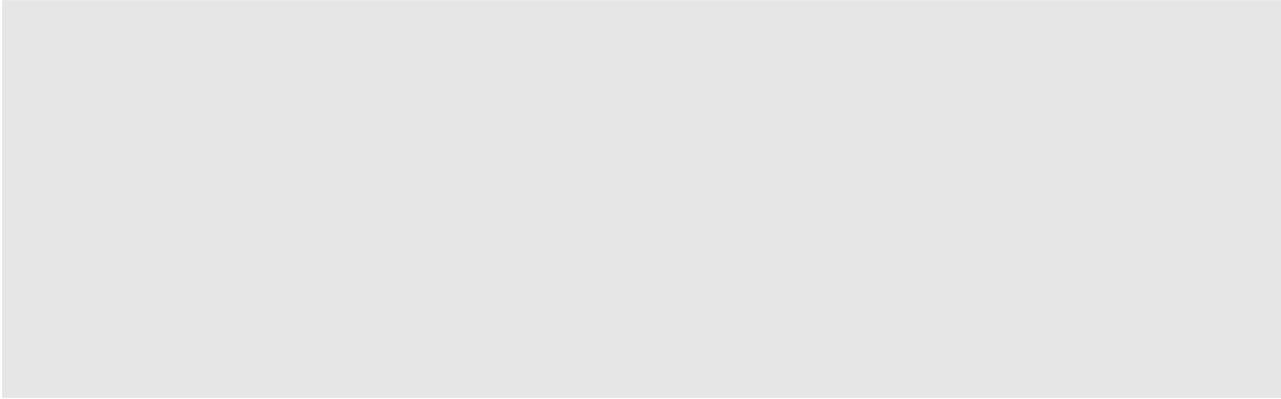
Miraculously, 184 of the 296 people aboard survived, many due to the heroic actions of the crew, local emergency responders and medical staff.

*[More Flight 232 coverage: Three decades on, Spencer Bailey -- the boy in the photograph -- discusses the crash's impact on his life.]*

But Haynes never considered himself a hero, choosing instead to give credit to his crew, said Woodbury County emergency management director Gary Brown, who served in that capacity at the time of the crash and grew to consider Haynes a "great friend."

"He was the most humble man I've ever met in my life," Brown said late Sunday night.

PHOTOS: Sioux City Journal front pages from Flight 232

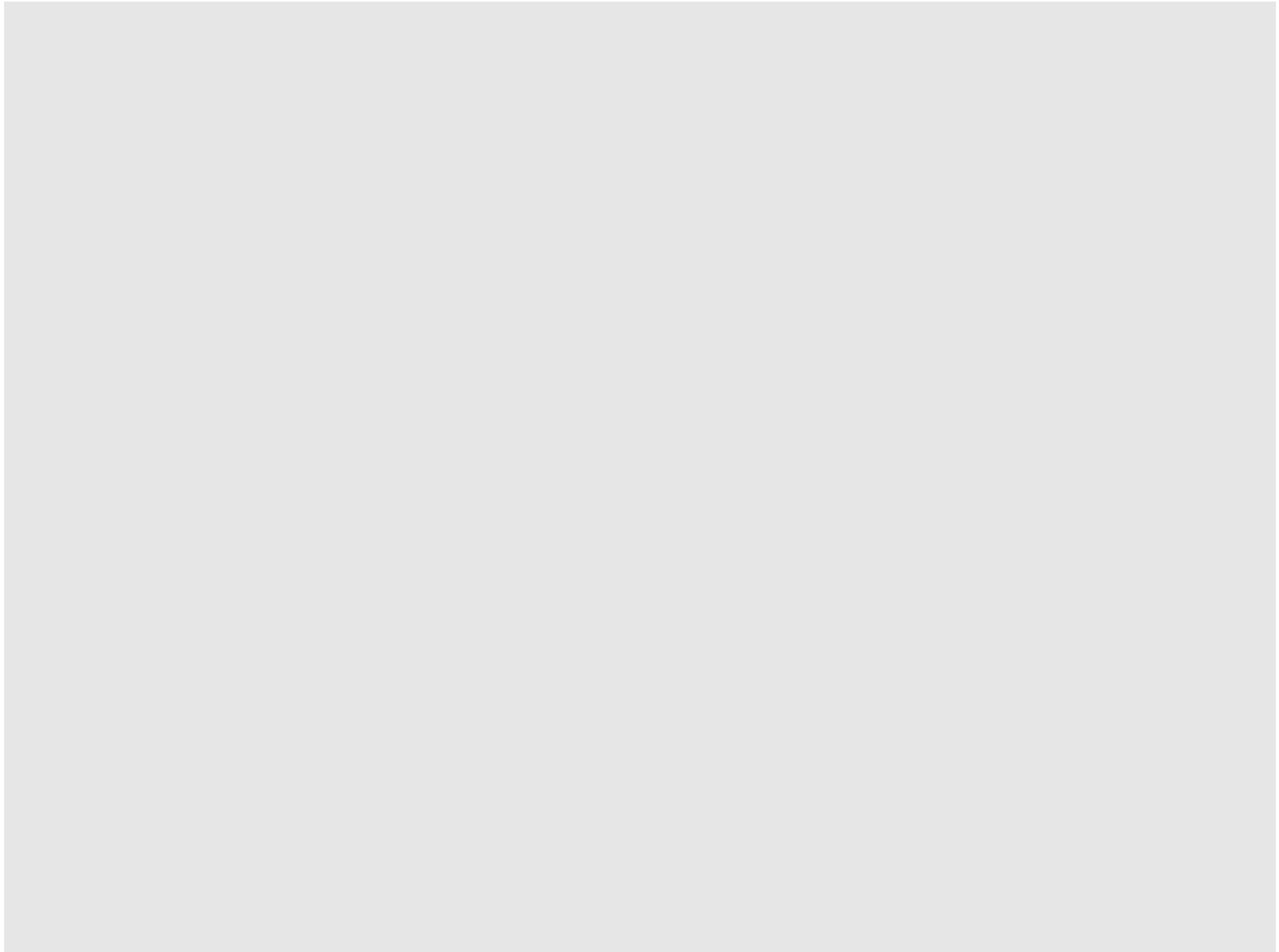


Brown said Haynes never forgot the 112 passengers who died in the crash. To honor their memory, he worked tirelessly over the next three decades to help prevent future air disasters. He traveled the world, speaking at various conferences that focused on lessons learned from Flight 232 and making corresponding changes in the industry.

"He wanted something good to come out of such a horrible tragedy," Brown said.

During his travels, Haynes became Sioux City's "great ambassador," Brown said. The pilot made several visits back to Sioux City. One of the most recent was for a ceremony in 2014 marking the 25th anniversary of the crash.

## Flight attendants

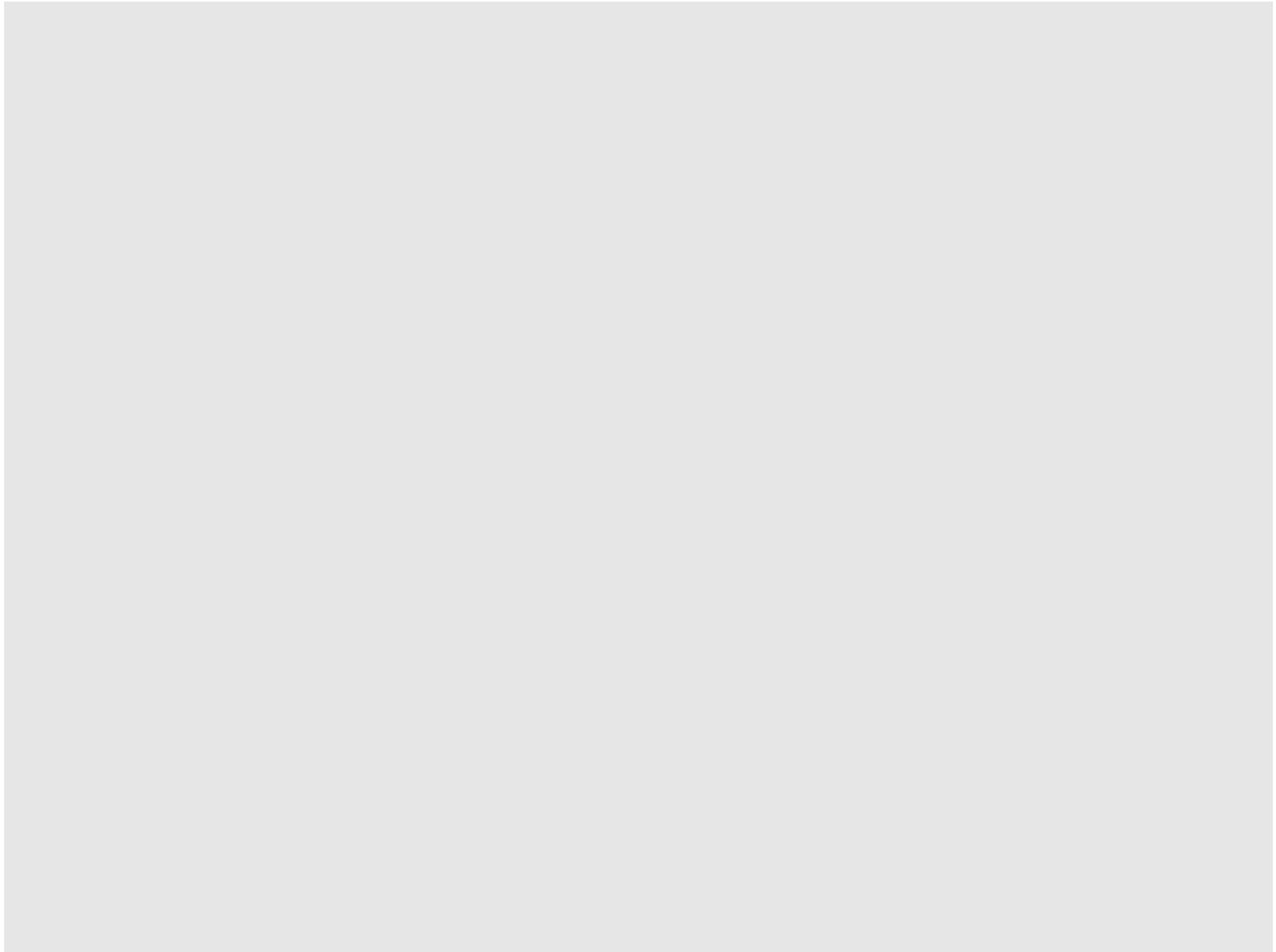


Flight attendants who aided the victims of United Flight 232 crash in in Sioux City pose July 28, 1989, at a news conference in Chicago. From left, are Georgeanne Del Castillo, Janice Brown, Virginia Murray, Donna McGrady, Susan White, and Timothy Owens.

Charles Bennett, Associated Press file

---

## Flight 232 crew members

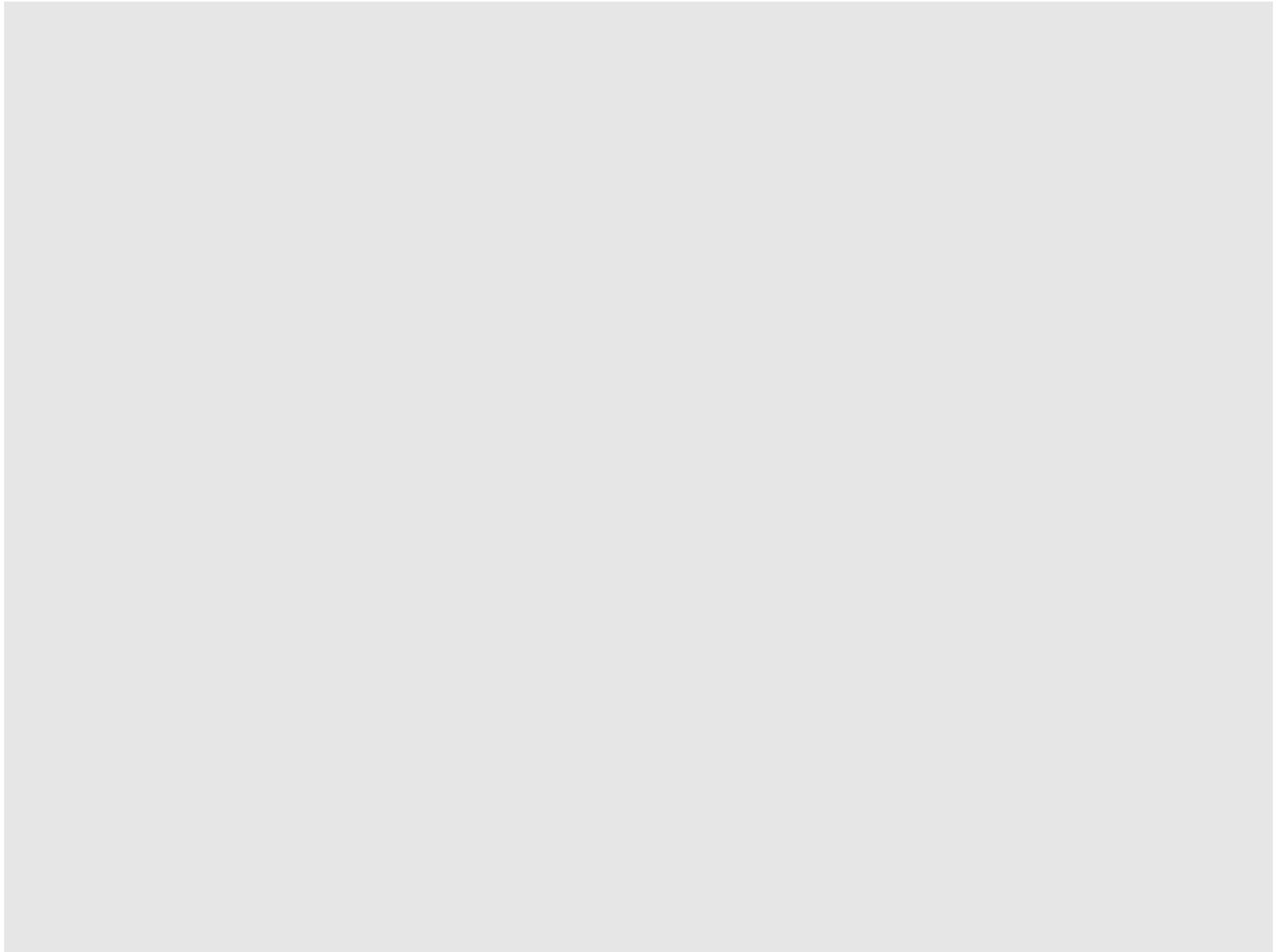


Crew members of United Airlines Flight 232 meet with reporters in Washington Sept. 7, 1989, to discuss their efforts to guide the disabled aircraft. From left are Capt. Al Haynes, First Officer William Records, Second Officer Dudley Dvorak and Capt. Dennis Fitch.

Charles Tasnadi, Associated Press file

---

## Bailey family

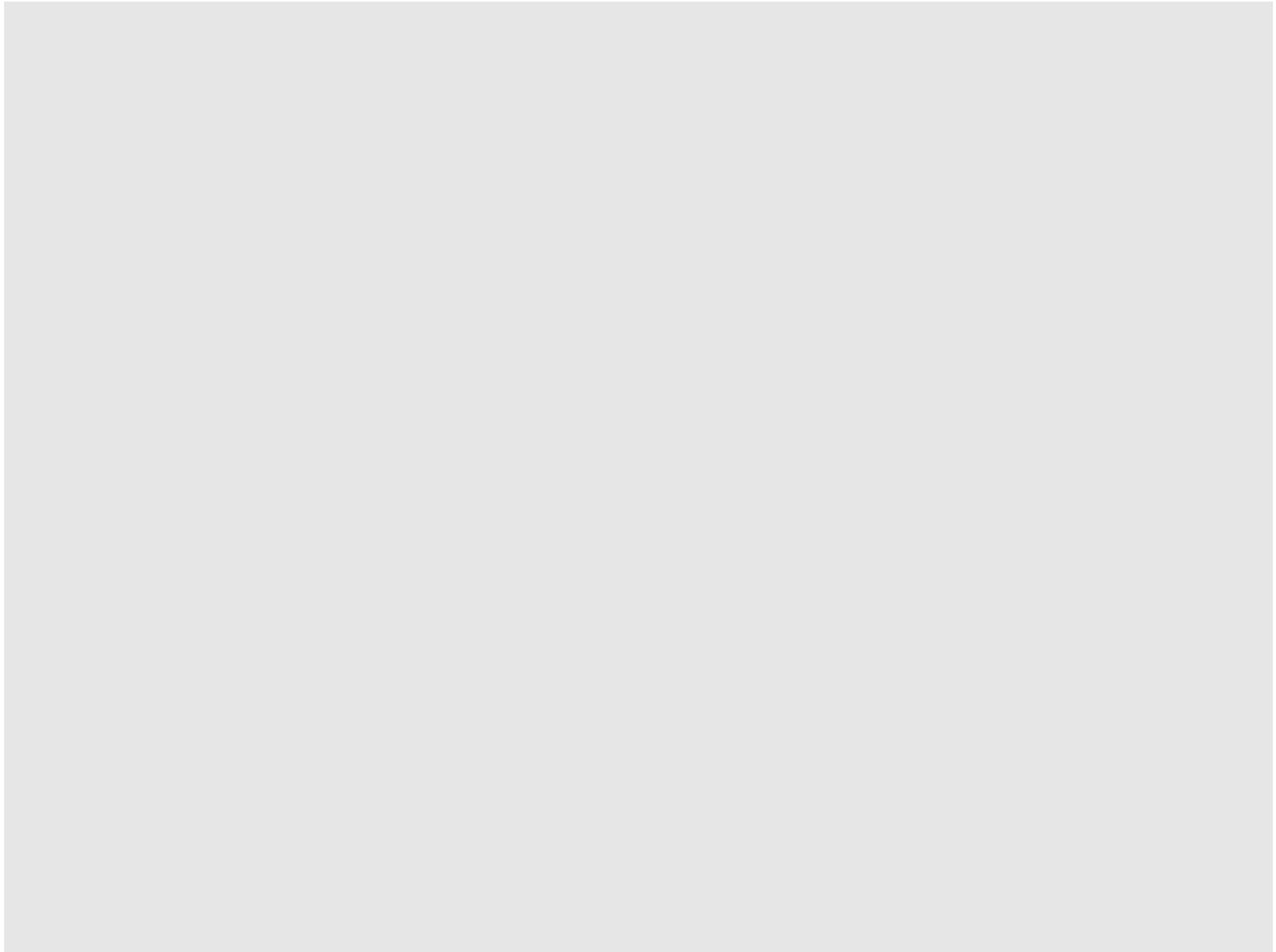


From left, Iowa Air National Guard Lt. Col. Dennis Nielsen, Trent Bailey, Brownell Bailey, Brandon Bailey and Spencer Bailey are shown in a press conference July 19, 1990, on the one-year anniversary of the crash of United Flight 232.

Mark Fageol, Sioux City Journal file

---

## Al Haynes first anniversary

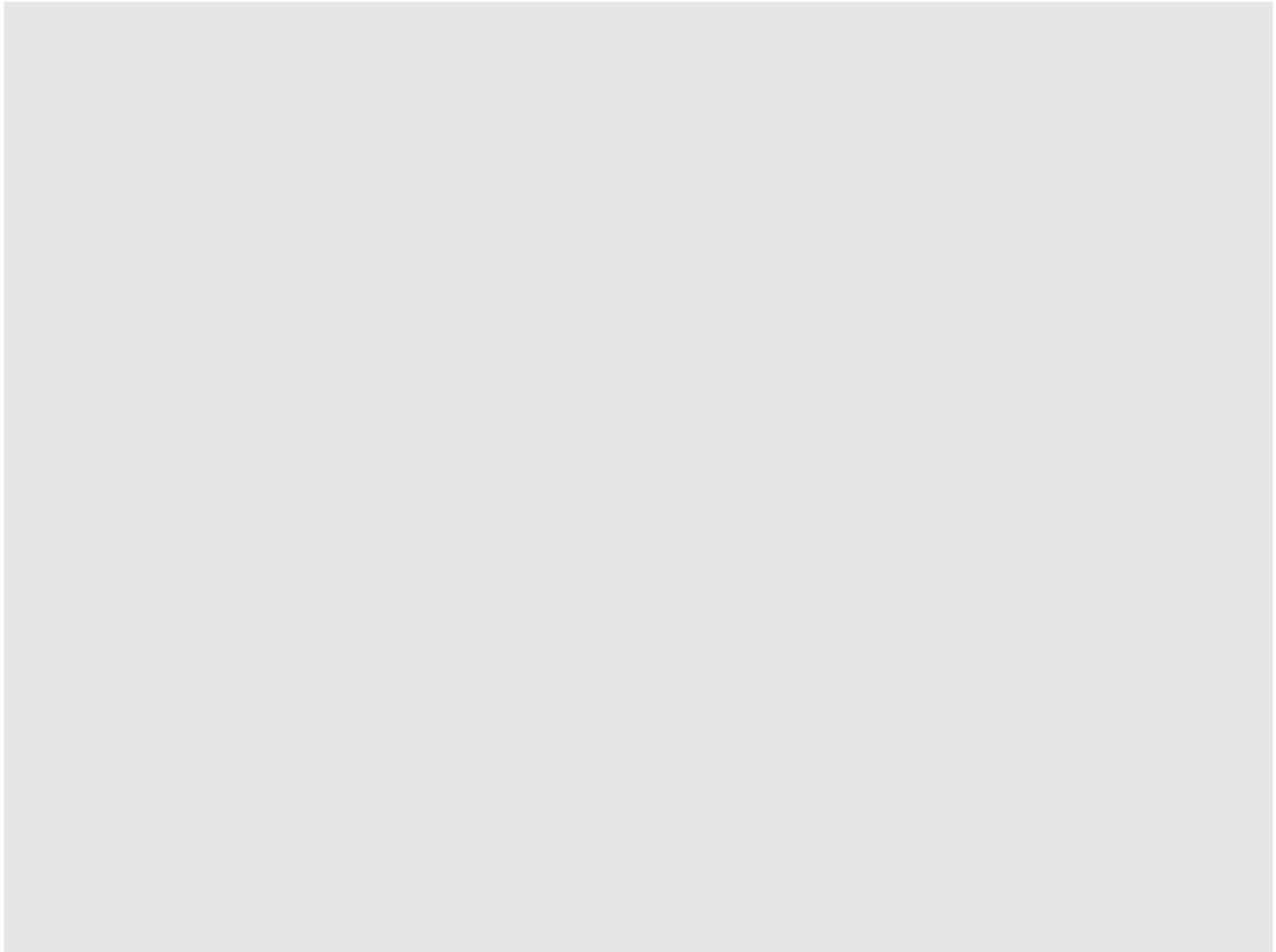


United Airlines pilot Capt. Al Haynes smiles July 19, 1990, while taking questions at a press conference in conjunction with the commemoration of the crash of United Flight 232 in Sioux City.

John Gaps III, Sioux City Journal file

---

## One-year memorial

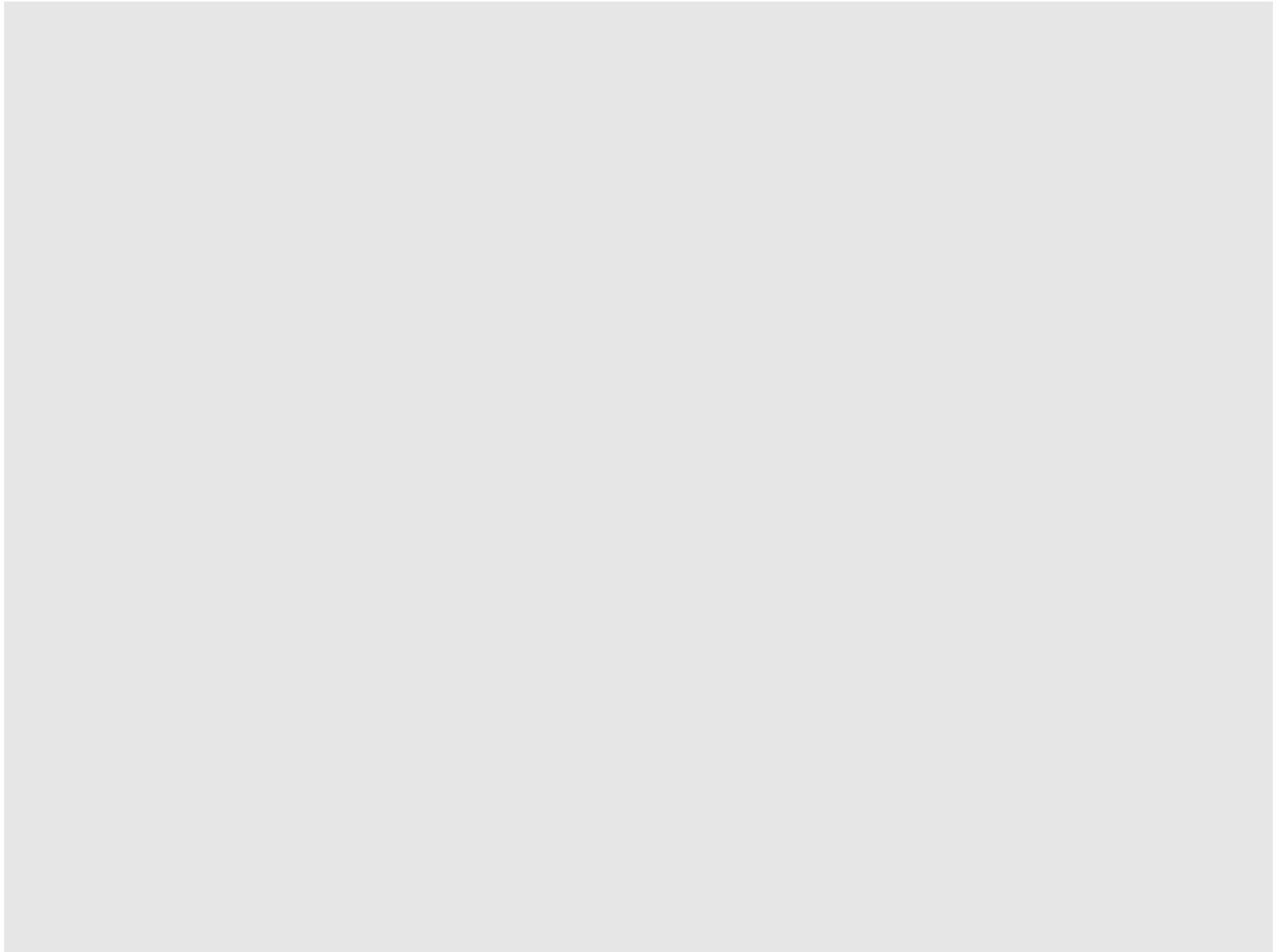


A memorial is held to Flight 232 victims on July 19, 1990, a year after the crash.

Mark Fageol, Sioux City Journal file

---

## Bailey family

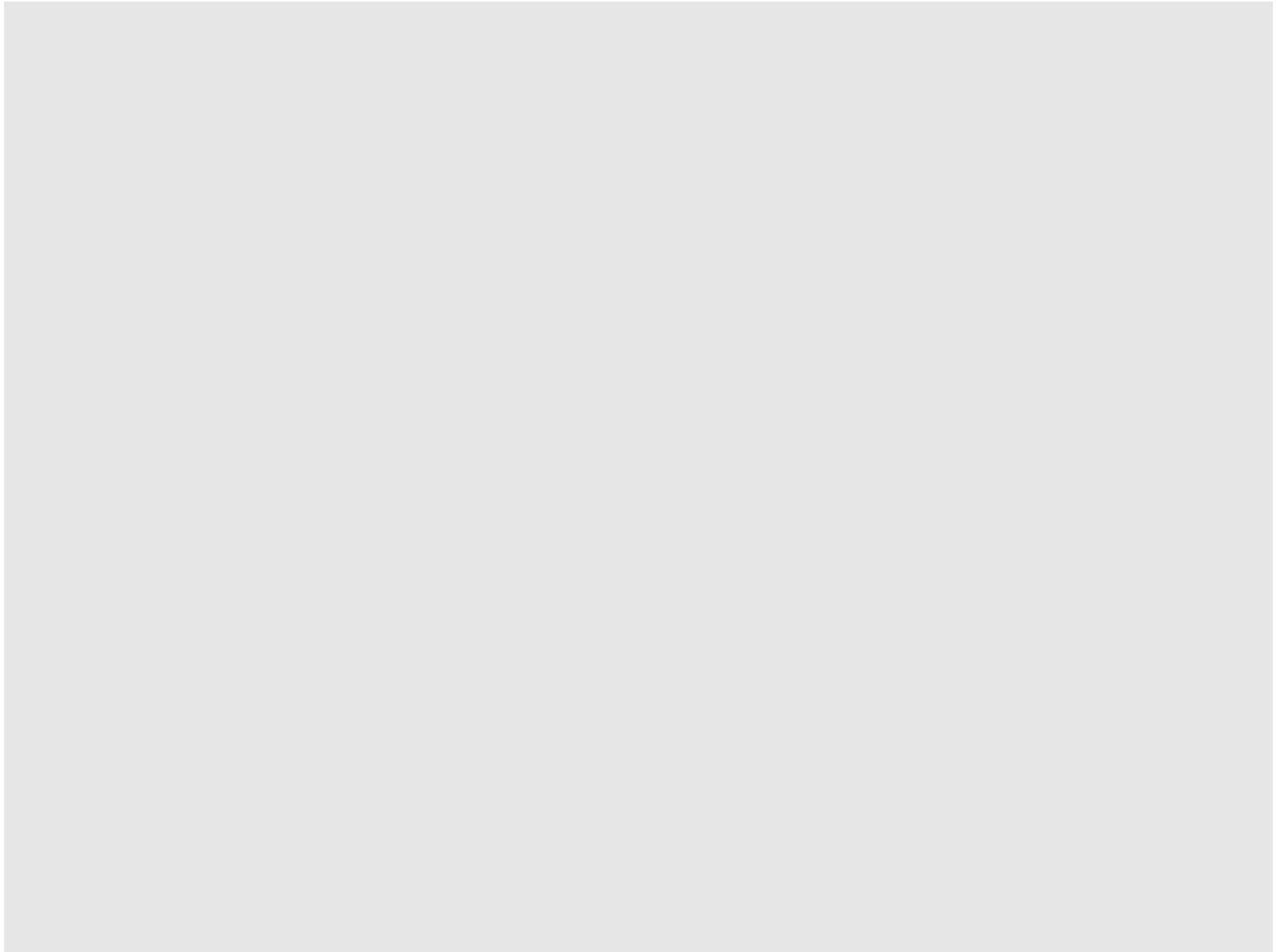


The Bailey family, from left, Trent, Brownell, Spencer and Brandon, visits the United Flight 232 memorial located at Chris Larsen Park in Sioux City, on July 19, 1999, the 10th anniversary of the crash. Spencer Bailey is the boy being carried by Lt. Col. Dennis Nielsen as depicted in the statue.

Angela Tague, Sioux City Journal file

---

# Dennis Fitch

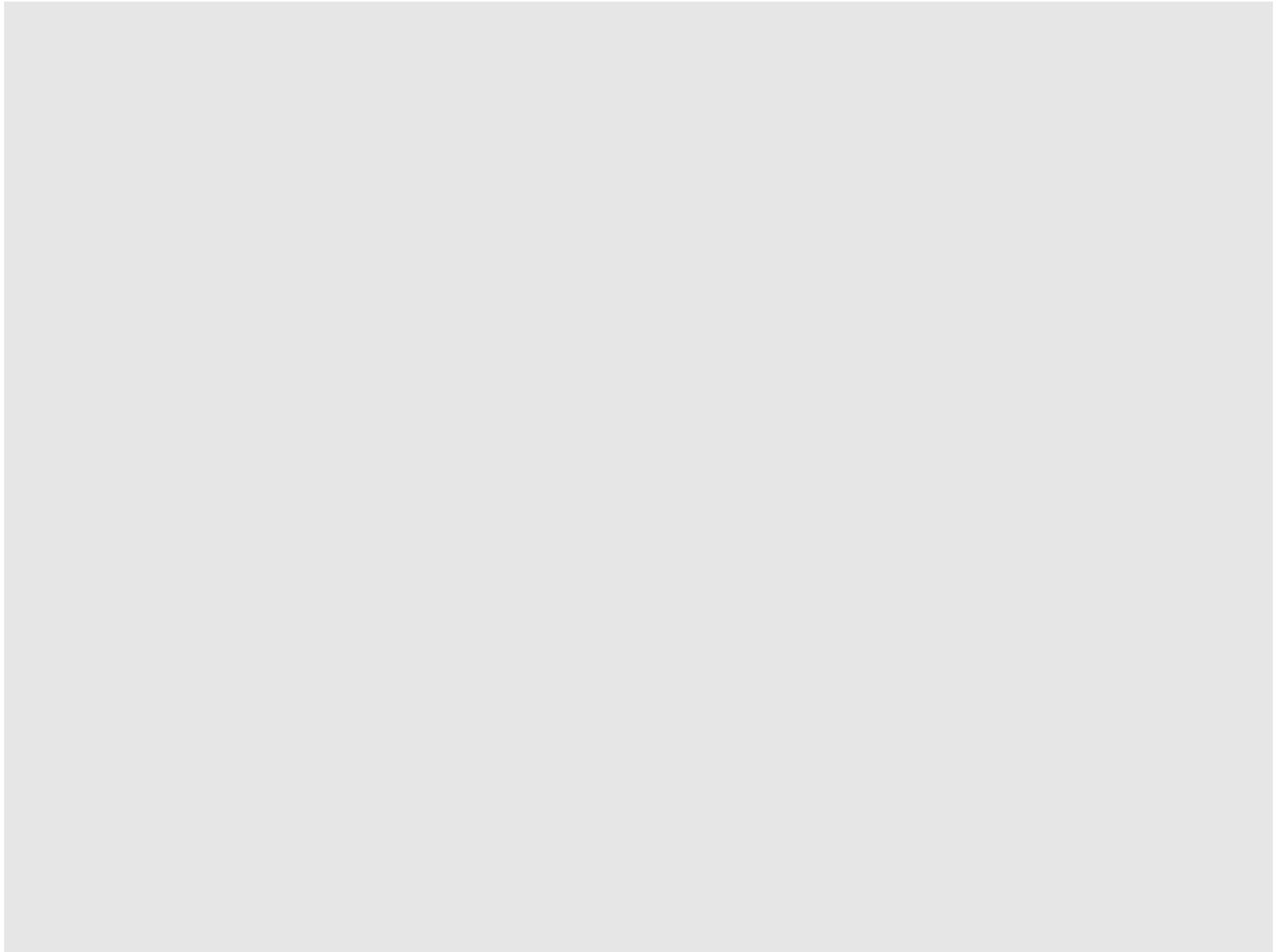


This October 2007 photo shows retired United Airlines pilot Denny Fitch at his home in St. Charles, Ill. Fitch, helped crash-land United Flight 232 in Sioux City in 1989.

Christopher Hankins, Daily Herald

---

# Al Haynes

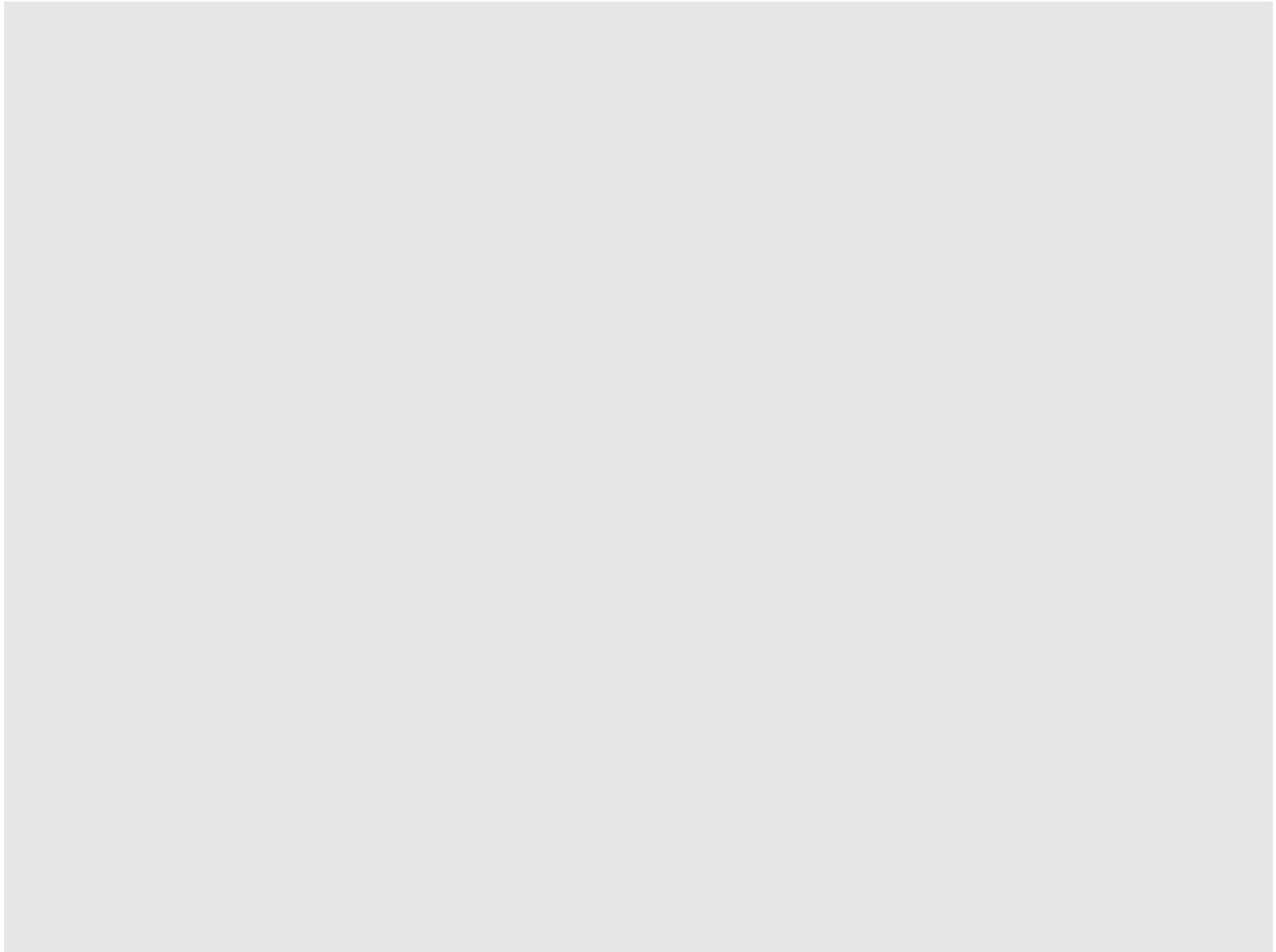


United Airlines Flight 232 pilot Capt. Al Haynes speaks at the opening of the Mid America Museum of Aviation & Transportation in Sioux City on July 31, 2010.

Jim Lee, Sioux City Journal file

---

## Mid America exhibit



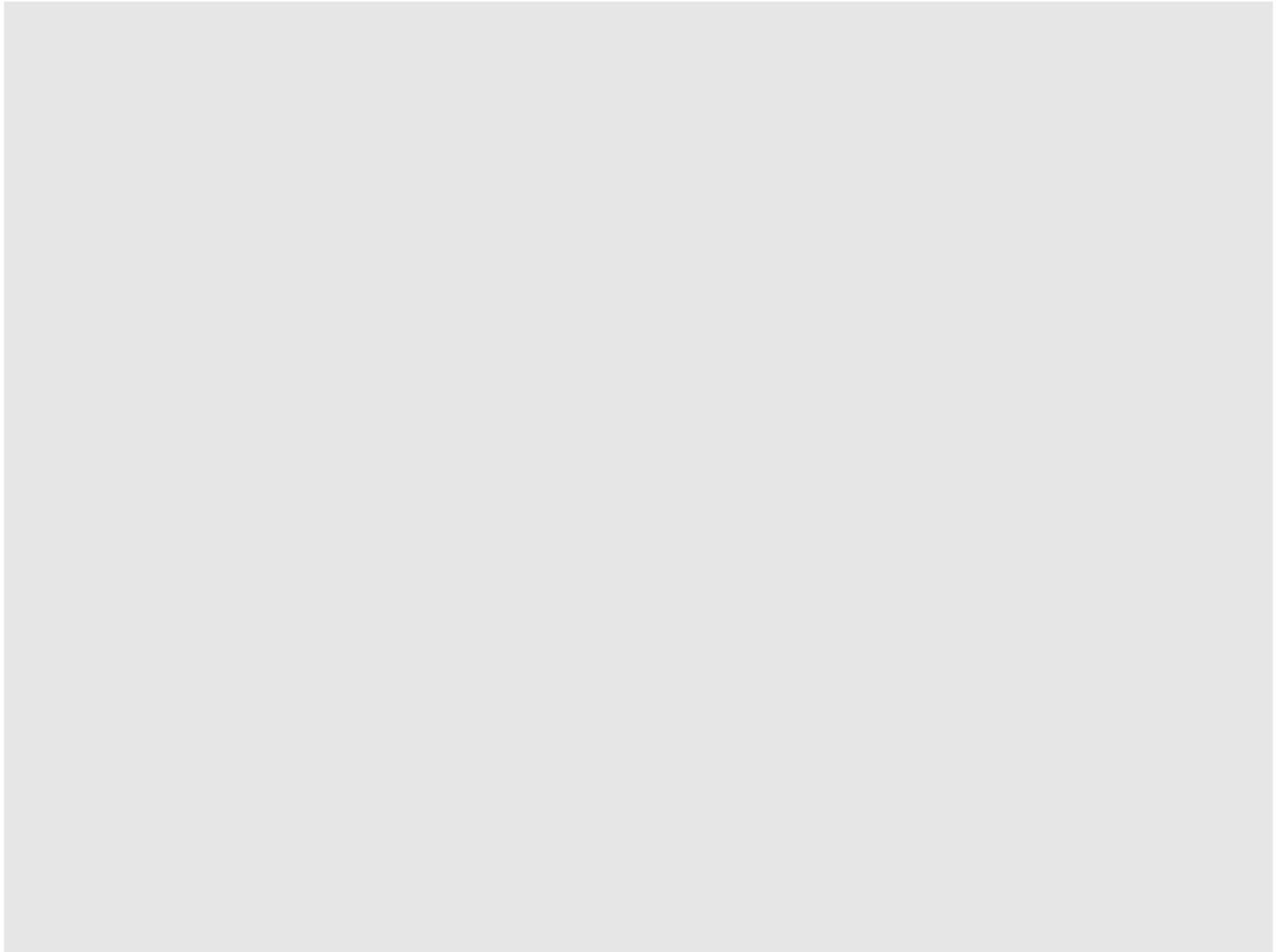
Larry Finley, executive director of the Mid America Museum of Aviation & Transportation, looks at the United Flight 232 exhibit at the museum, located north of Sioux Gateway Airport, in July 2013. The DC-10 crashed at the Sioux City airport on July 19, 1989.

Provided

---

---

## 25th anniversary press conference

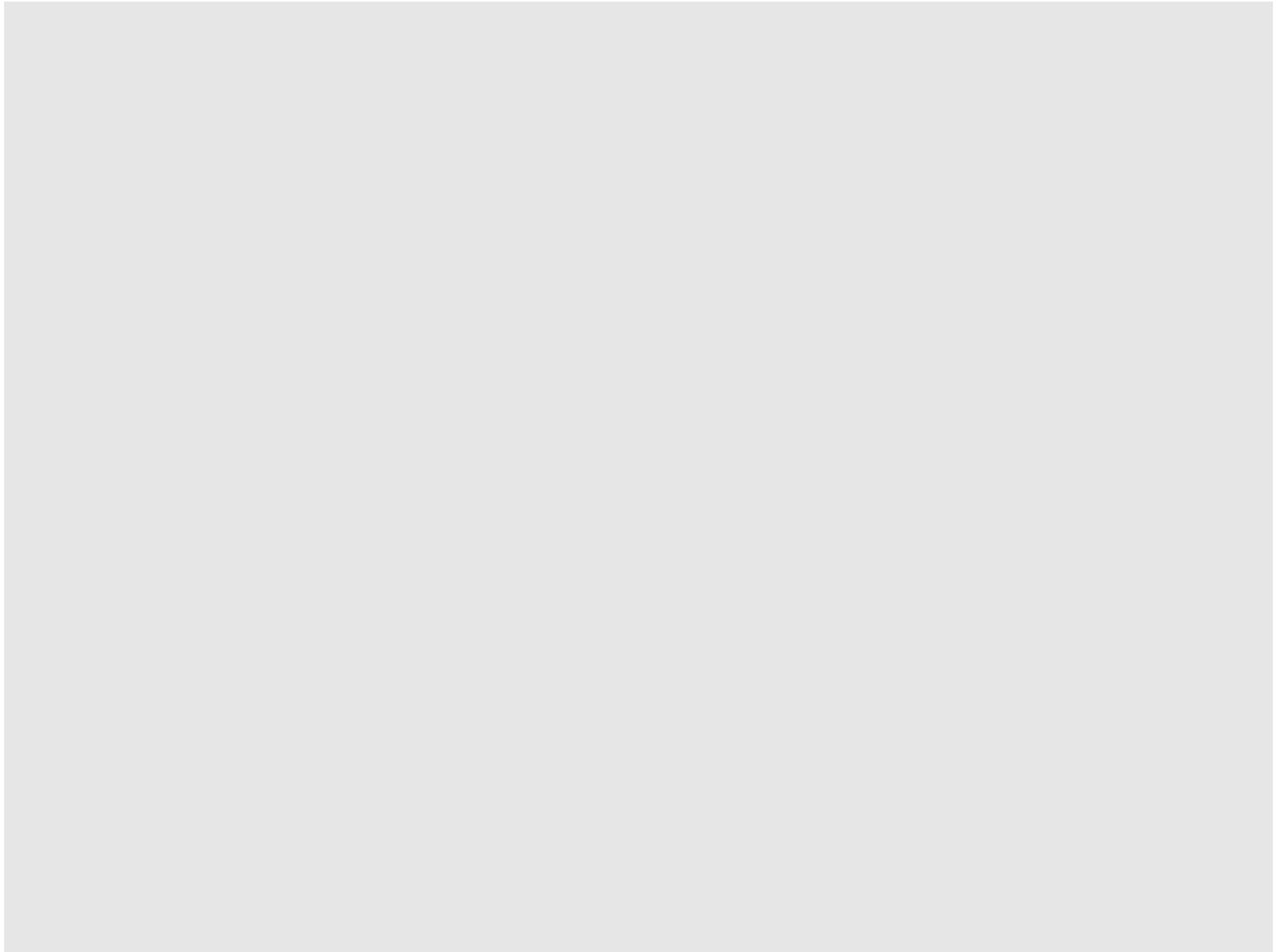


United Airlines head flight attendant Jan Brown (retired), right, talks about her experience, while from left, flight attendant Susan White Callendar, Capt. Al Haynes (retired), and first officer Bill Records (retired) look on during a press conference held in conjunction with the 25th anniversary of the crash of United Flight 232.

Dawn J. Sagert, Sioux City Journal

---

## 25th anniversary press conference

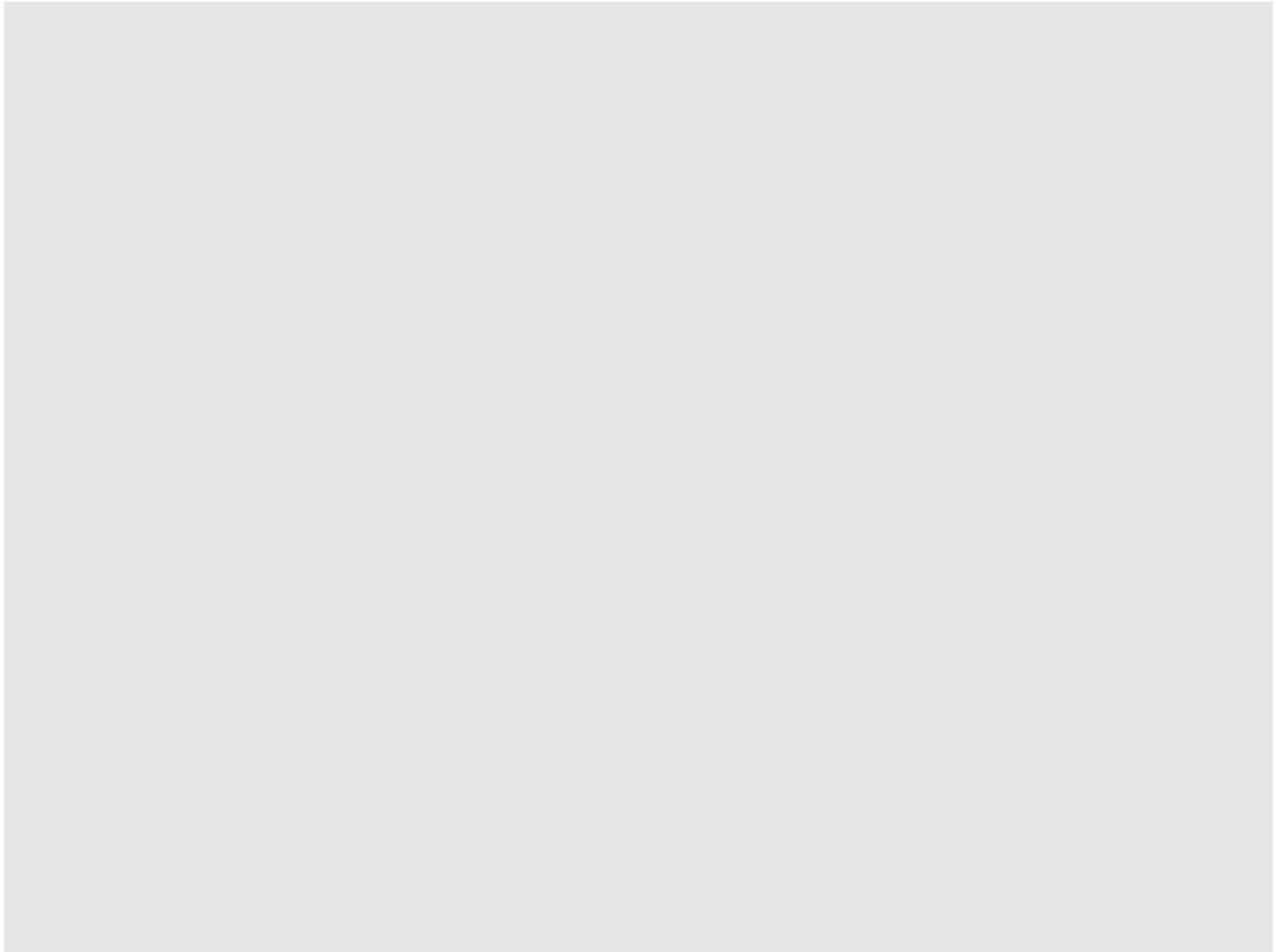


Clockwise, from top left, United Airlines flight crew members Tim Owens, Kathy Tam, Georgia DelCastillo, Barb Gillaspie, Donna McGrady, Jan Brown, Bill Records, Capt. Al Haynes and Susan White Callendar are shown during a press conference is held in conjunction with the 25th anniversary of the crash of United Flight 232.

Dawn J. Sagert, Sioux City Journal

---

## 25th anniversary press conference

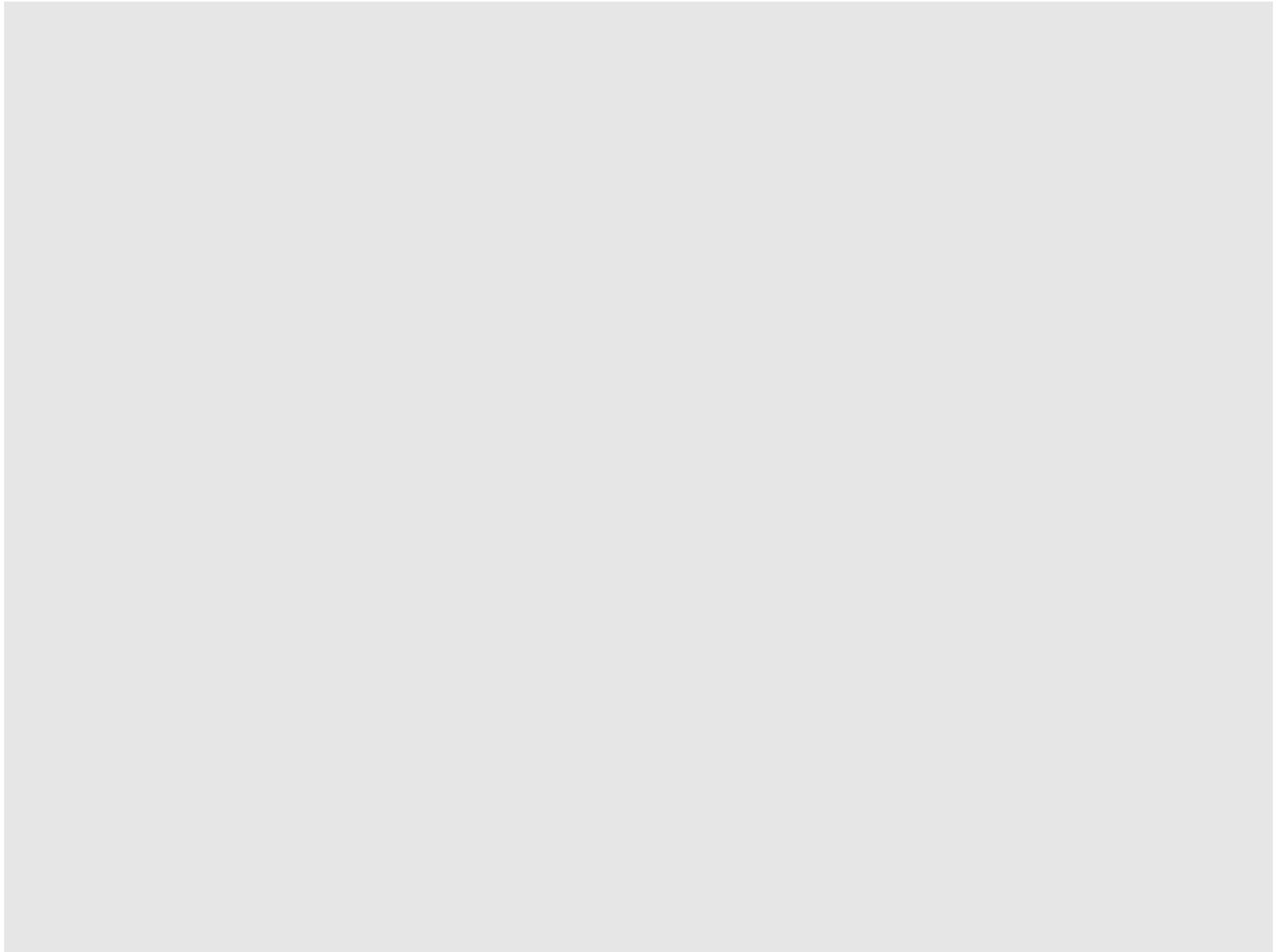


Ellen Badis, center, of Charlotte, N.C., introduces sons Eric Badis, left, and Aaron Badis, second from left, following a press conference held in conjunction with the 25th anniversary of the crash of United Flight 232 in Sioux City.

Dawn J. Sagert, Sioux City Journal

---

## Flight 232 Panel discussion

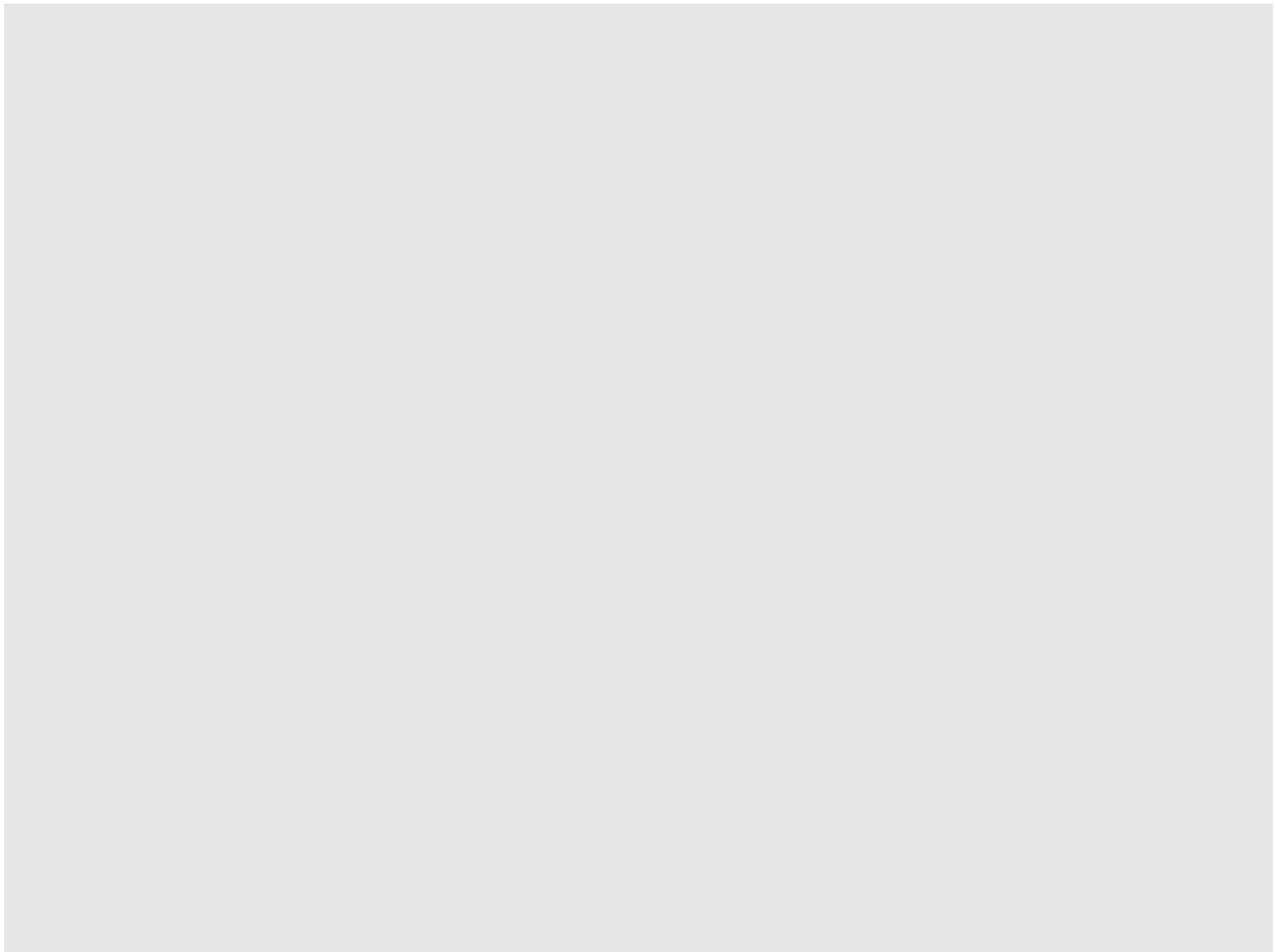


United Airlines pilot Capt. Al Haynes makes his way around emergency responder units parked along Pierce Street just before speaking during a panel discussion held in conjunction with the 25th anniversary of the United Airlines flight 232 crash at the Orpheum Theatre.

Dawn J. Sagert, Sioux City Journal

---

## Panel discussion

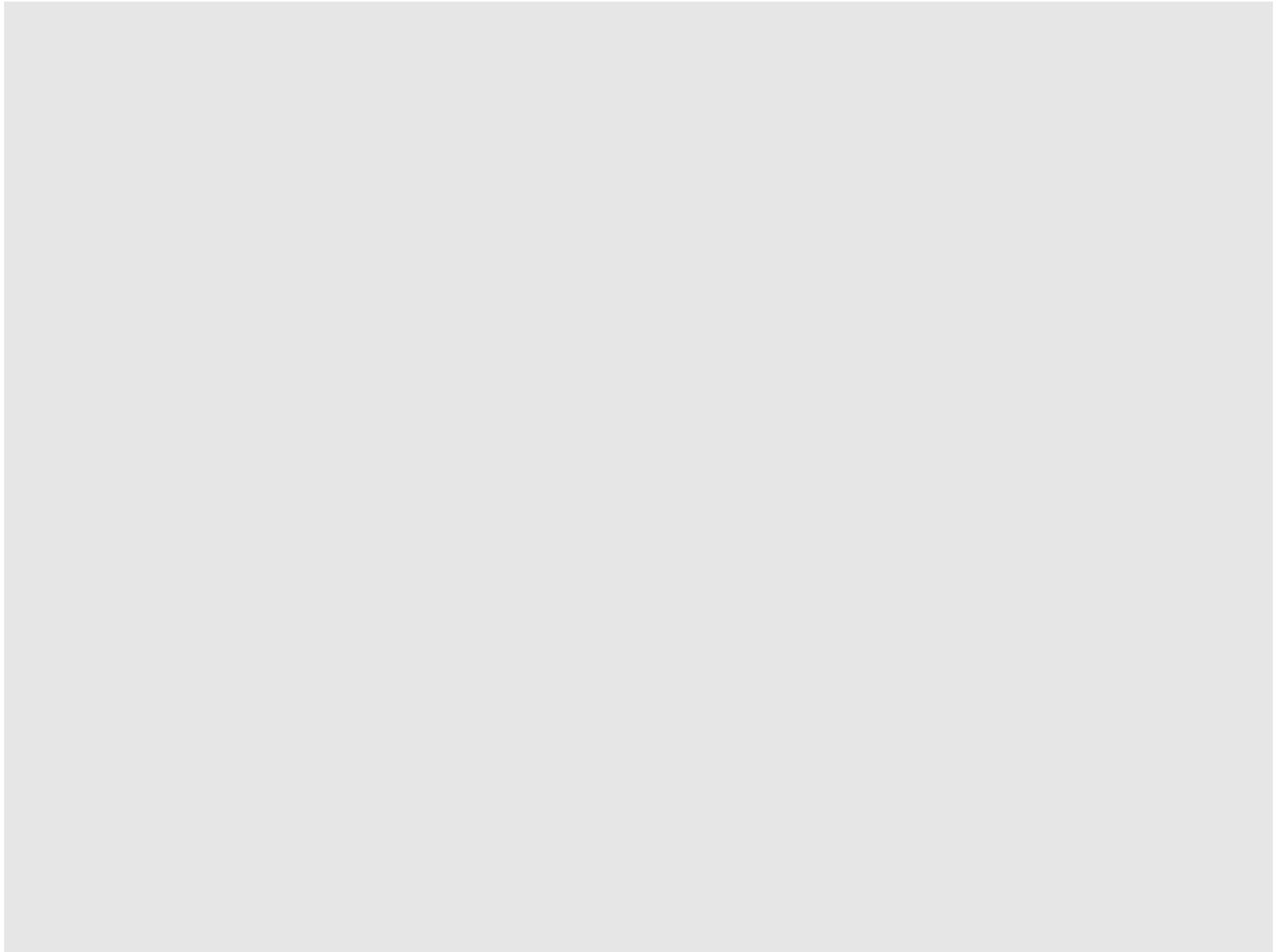


United Airlines pilot Capt. Al Haynes, left, signs a program for Jeanne Dietrich, right, of Omaha, on July 18, 2014, before speaking during a panel discussion at the Orpheum Theatre held in conjunction with the 25th anniversary of the United Flight 232 crash.

Dawn J. Sagert, Sioux City Journal

---

## Reflection ceremony



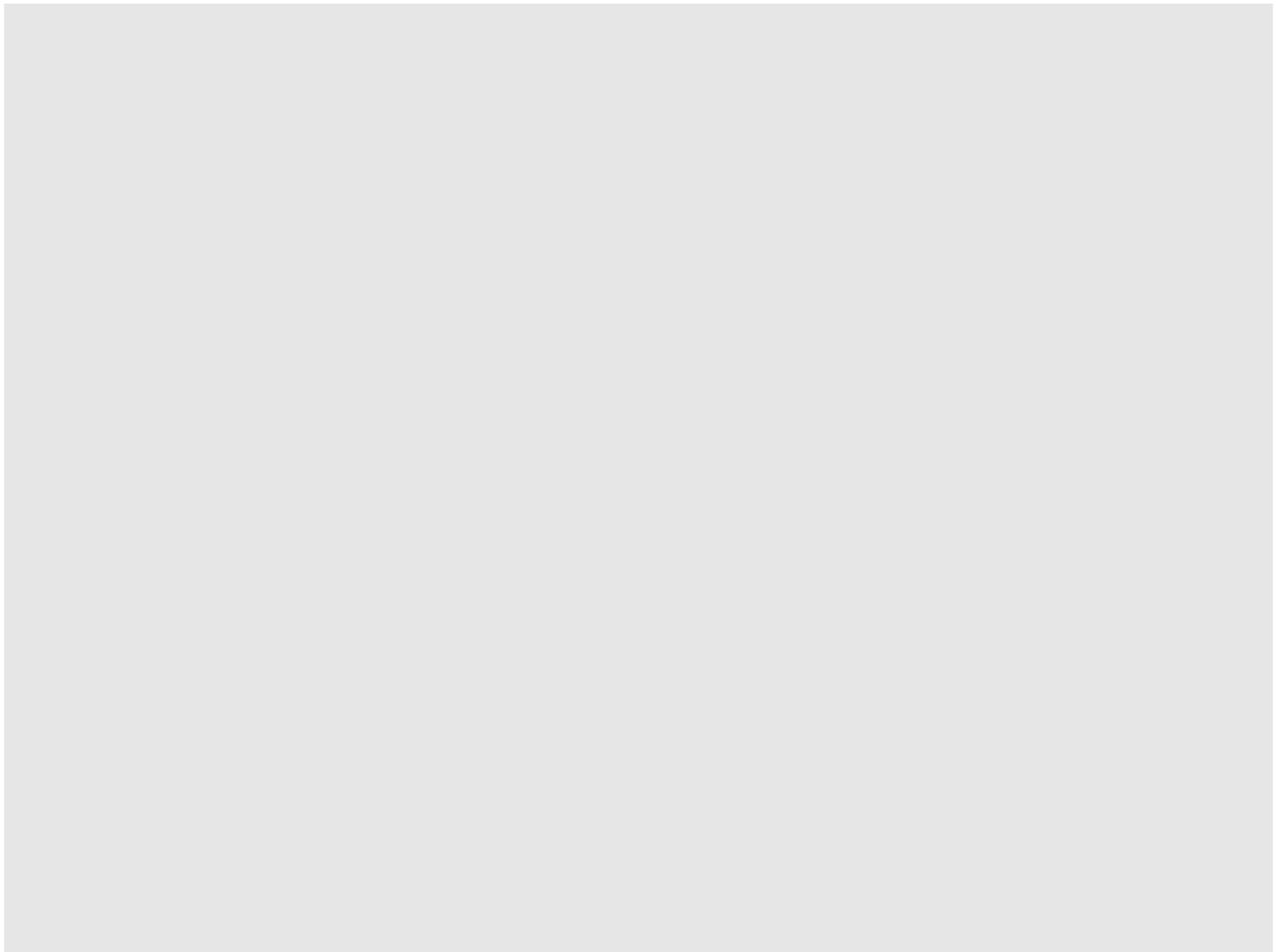
People look at a display prior to the Reflection Ceremony commemorating the 25th anniversary of the crash of United Flight 232 at the Mid America Museum of Aviation and Transportation in Sioux City on July 19, 2014.

Jim Lee, Sioux City Journal

---

---

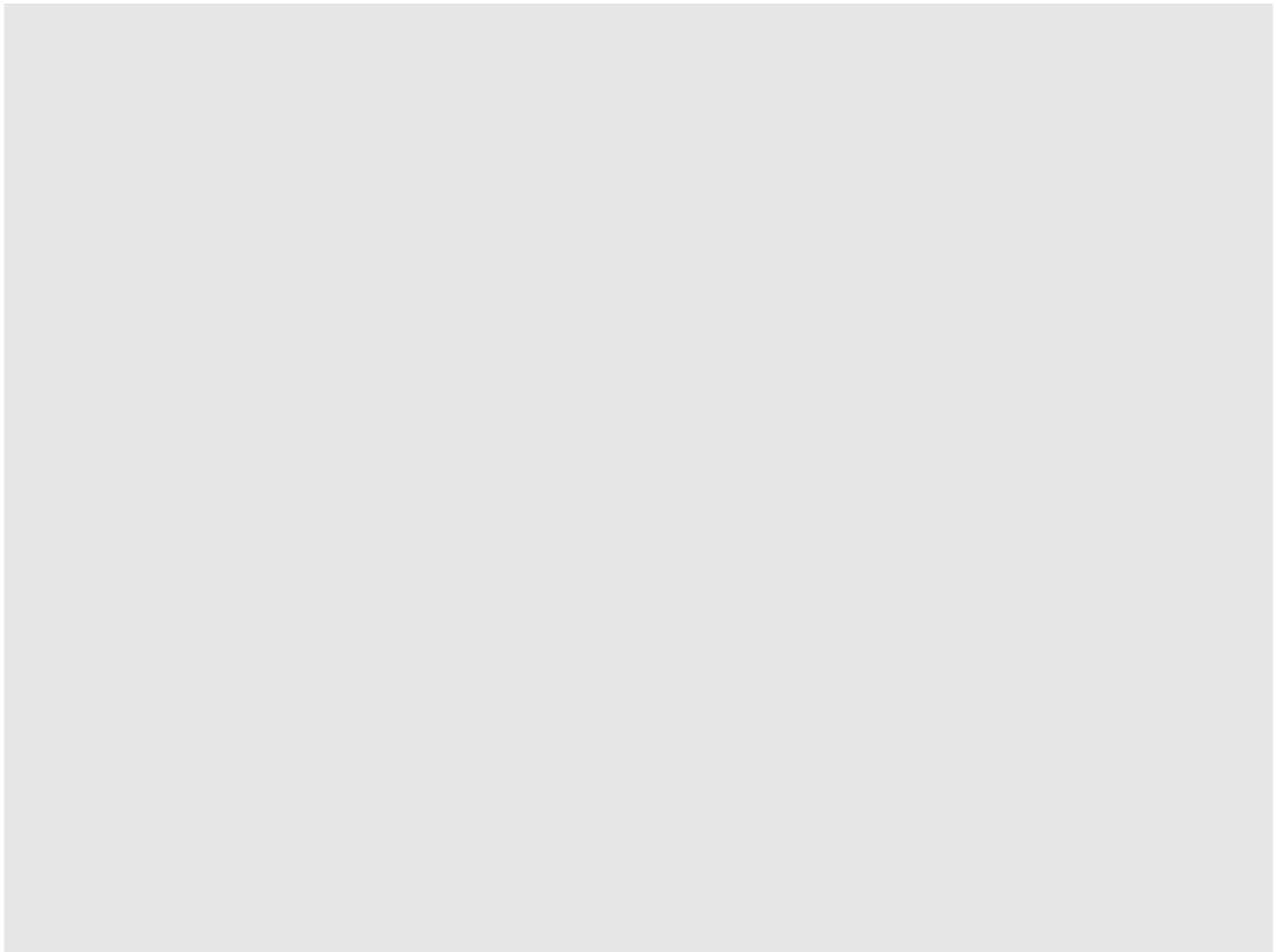
## Reflection ceremony



Rev. Gregg Clapper speaks during the Reflection Ceremony commemorating the 25th anniversary of the crash of United Flight 232 at the Mid America Museum of Aviation and Transportation on July 19, 2014.  
Jim Lee, Sioux City Journal

---

## Reflection ceremony

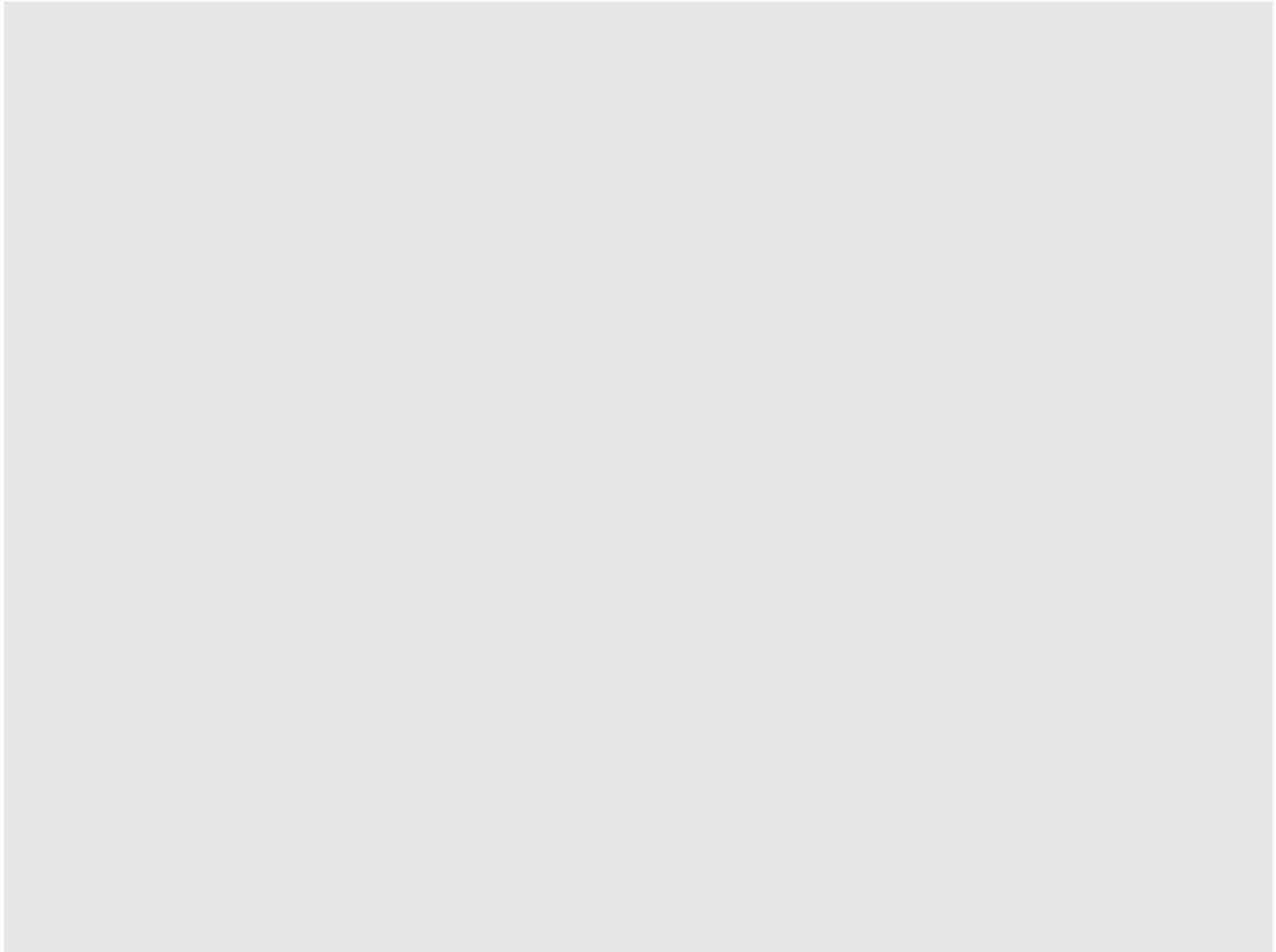


Iowa Governor Terry Branstad speaks during the Reflection Ceremony commemorating the 25th anniversary of the crash of United Flight 232 at the Mid America Museum of Aviation and Transportation in Sioux City on July 19, 2014.

Jim Lee, Sioux City Journal

---

## Reflection ceremony

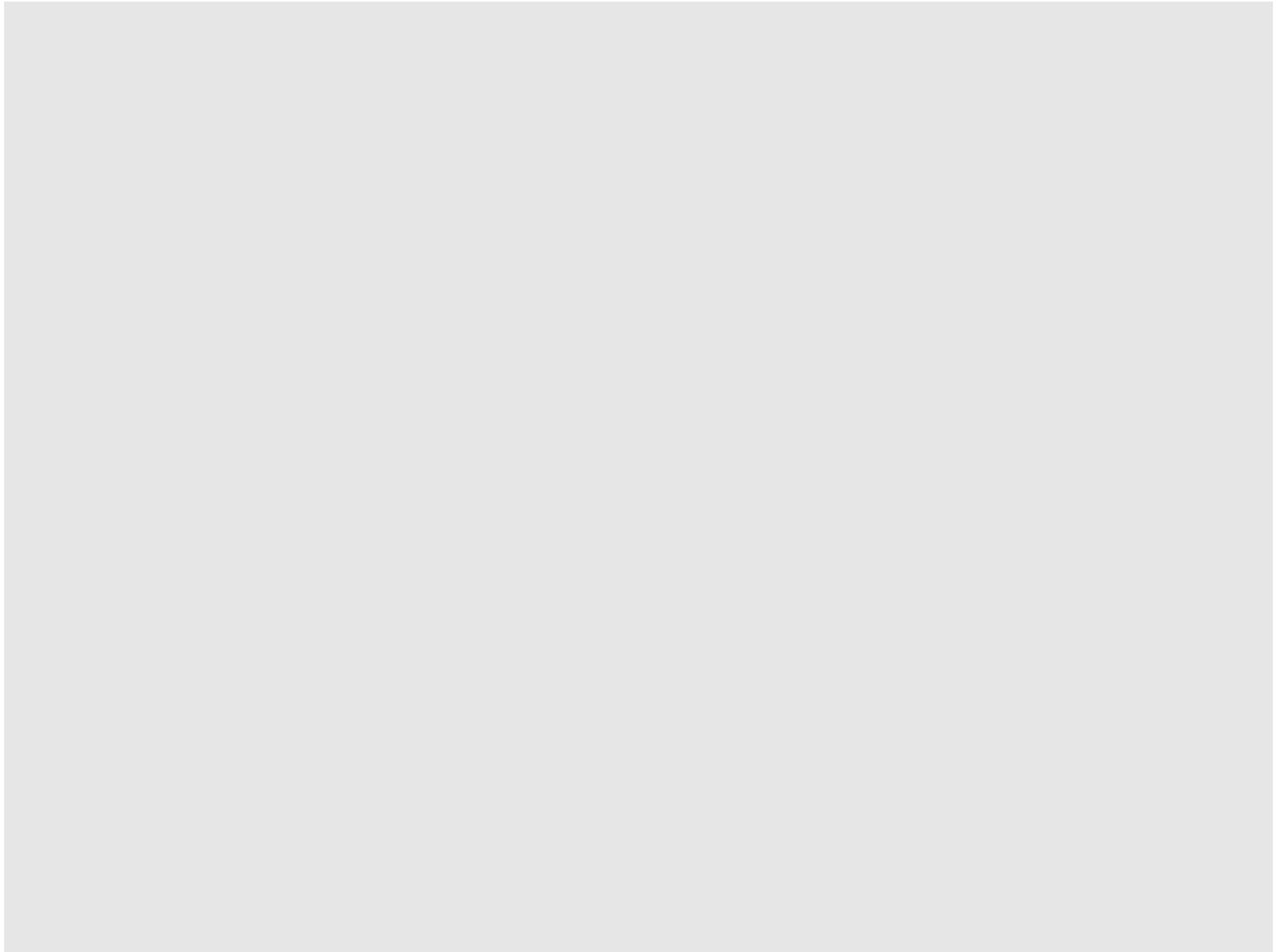


Flight crew members hold hands as they gather at the crash site memorial during the Reflection Ceremony commemorating the 25th anniversary of the crash of United Flight 232 at the Mid America Museum of Aviation and Transportation in Sioux City on July 19, 2014.

Jim Lee, Sioux City Journal

---

## Reflection ceremony

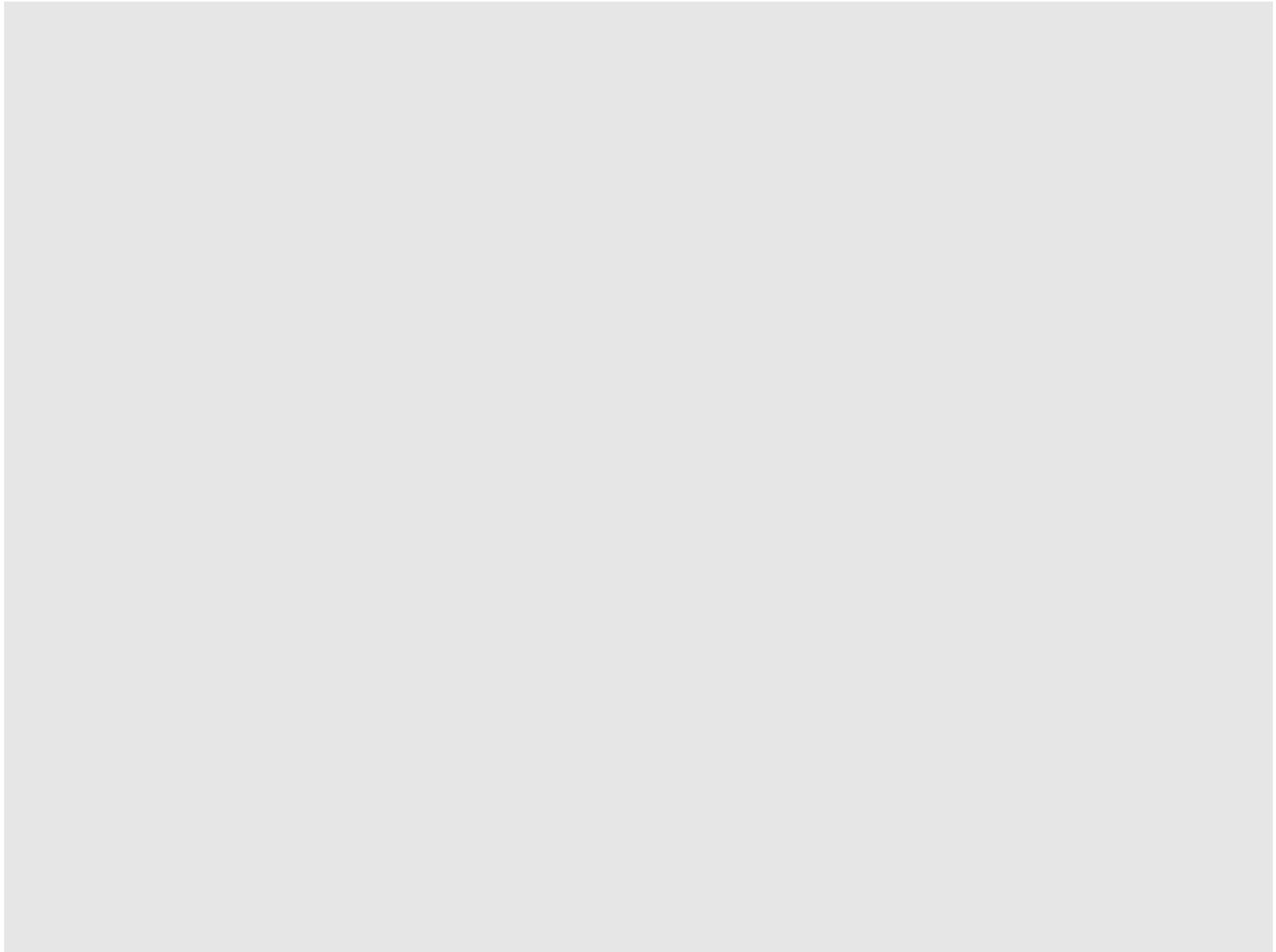


Lois Donaldson of Sioux City pauses as she looks at the freshly lain wreath at the new memorial site following a Reflection Ceremony is held in commemoration of the 25th Anniversary of the United Flight 232 crash.

Dawn J. Sagert, Sioux City Journal

---

## Memorial sculpture

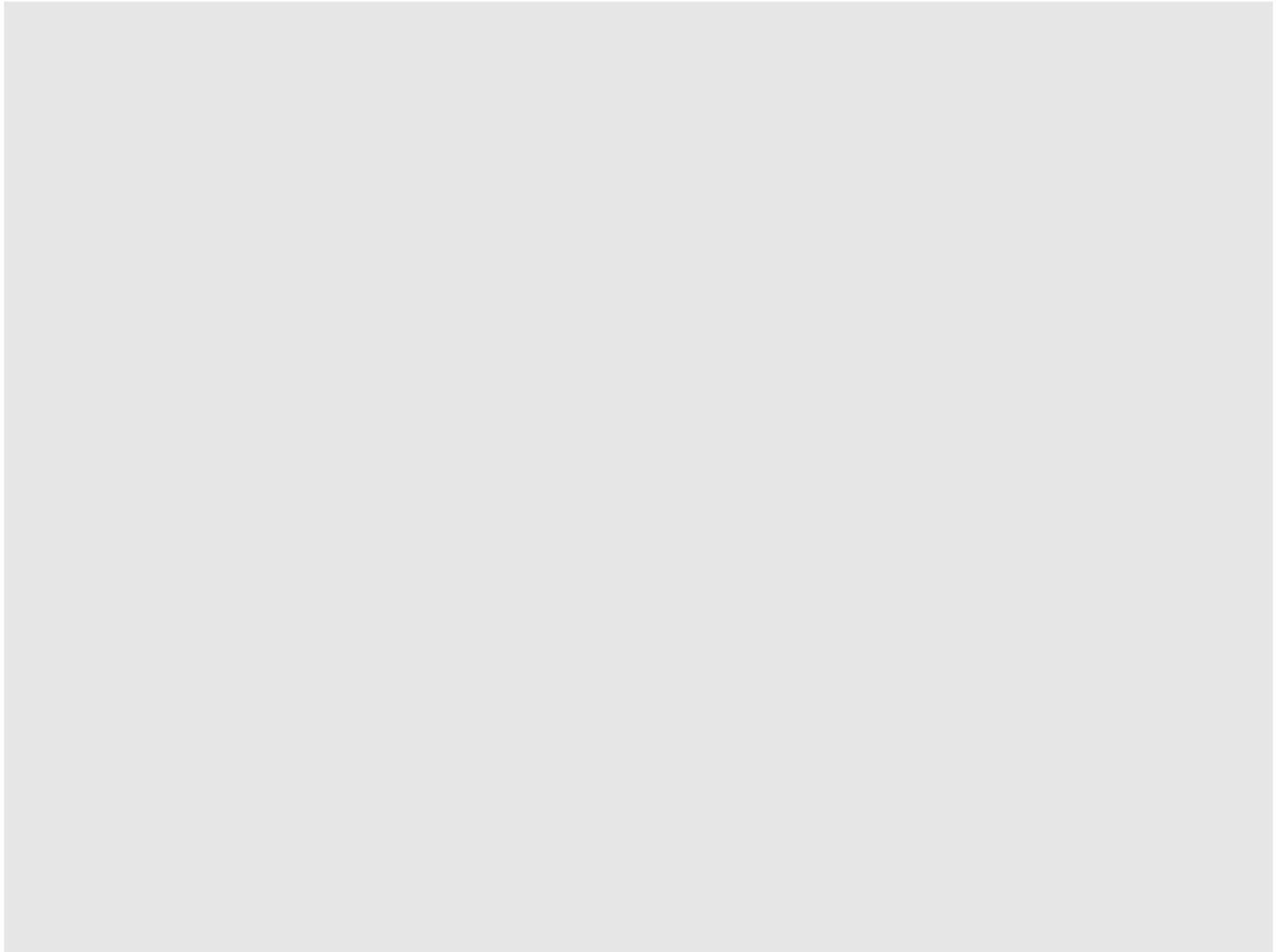


Carnations are shown on the Flight 232 memorial sculpture at Chris Larsen Park on July 20, 2014, following an ecumenical remembrance service. The service was the conclusion of the weekend's 25th anniversary observance of the Flight 232 crash.

Dawn J. Sagert, Sioux City Journal

---

## Trent Bailey photo project

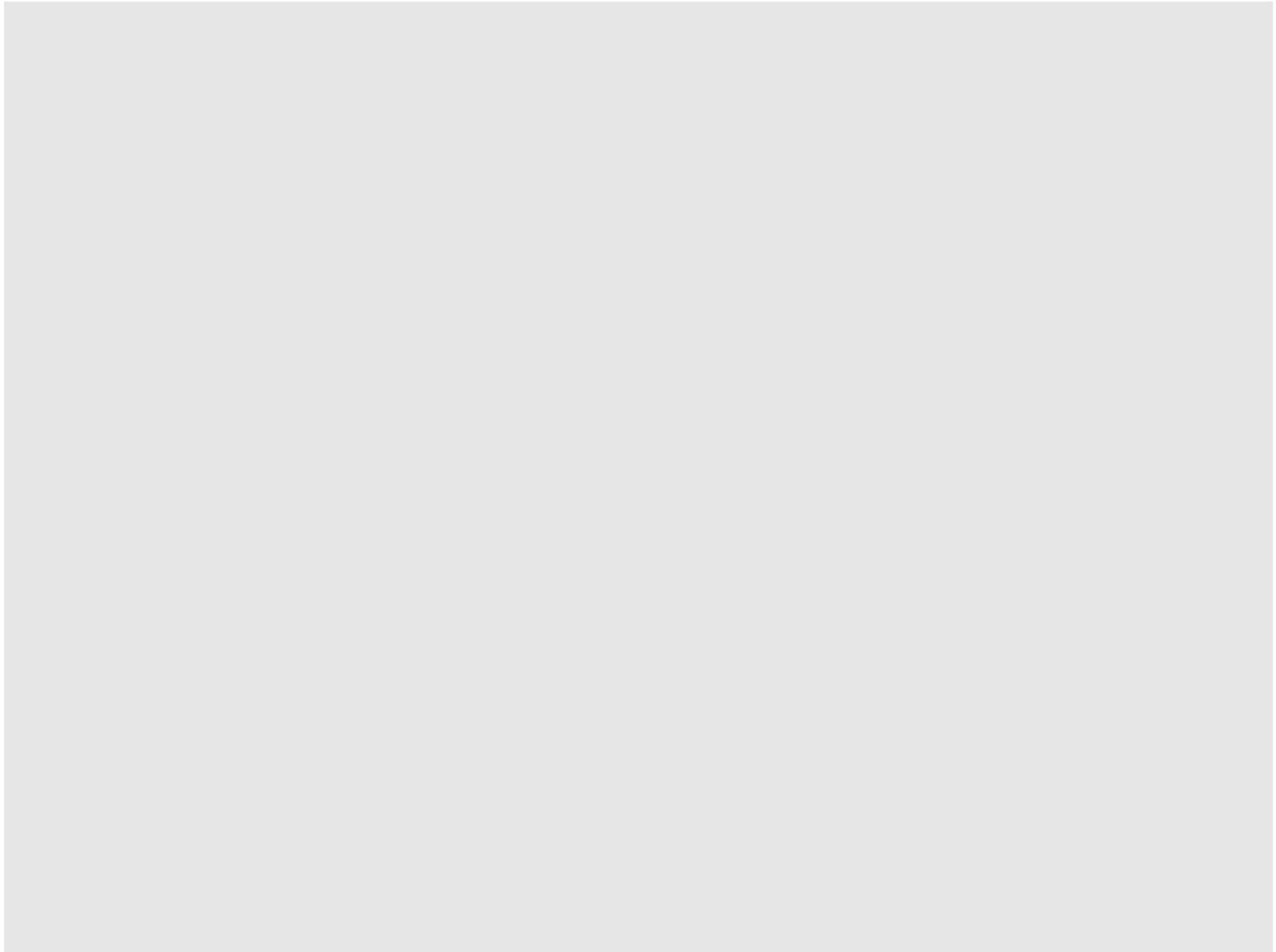


Trent Bailey of Berkeley, California, looks over a clipping from the Sioux City Journal's photo archives of the July 1989 crash of United Flight 232.

Tim Hynds, Sioux City Journal

---

## Trent Bailey photo project



Trent Bailey of Berkeley, California, looks at a strip of negatives showing him, his brothers and father from the the Sioux City Journal's photo archives of the July 1989 crash of United Flight 232.

Tim Hynds, Sioux City Journal

---

## MORE INFORMATION



📷 +7

Three decades after Flight 232, Spencer Bailey -- the boy in the photograph -- discusses its impact on his life

- Mid America Museum of Aviation & Transportation preserves 'moving' history
- TOP STORIES OF '14: The 25th anniversary of Flight 232 crash
- 📷 +17 PHOTOS: Images of Al Haynes through the years

---

Dave Dreeszen

Managing Editor

