

REMSA HEALTH AND CARE FLIGHT REMEMBERS FEBRUARY 24, 2023



GONE FROM OUR SIGHT, BUT NEVER FROM OUR HEARTS

Medical Transport Plane Accident

Friday, February 24, 2023 at 9:14 p.m. near Stagecoach, Nevada
Transporting from Reno, Nevada to Salt Lake City, Utah

Medical Crew

Ed Pricola, Care Flight Nurse
Ryan Watson, Care Flight Paramedic

Aviation Crew

Captain Scott Walton

Patient and Passenger

Names not released due to the
family's request for privacy

Aircraft

Pilatus PC-12 fixed wing

Tail Number

N273SM

Medical Crew Staffing

Care Flight

Fixed Wing Aviation Vendor

Guardian Flight

Program Stand-Down

Friday, February 24, 2023

Immediately following the incident, Care Flight's fixed-wing, rotor-wing and critical care ground transport programs were stood down in accordance with incident protocols for Guardian Flight and Care Flight.

Care Flight Rotor-Wing and Critical Care Ground Transport Return to Service

Monday, March 6 – Thursday, March 9, 2023

Following a pause of its medical transport services, three out of the four Care Flight rotor-wing aircraft returned to service March 9, 2023. Care Flight resumed its ground critical care transport services March 6, 2023. REMSA Health continued its 24/7 ground ambulance services without pause.

Community and Co-Response Partner Memorial Service and Tribute

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

An honor procession and memorial service was held to recognize the crew members who lost their lives in the line of duty. Care Flight / REMSA Health leadership, staff, family members, community members, first responder agencies, healthcare partners and dignitaries paid their respects. A recording of the memorial event is available [here](#).



NTSB Released Preliminary Report

Wednesday, March 15, 2023

The National Transportation Safety Board released its [preliminary report](#) on the incident.

Inaugural Pricola-Watson Award presented Posthumously to Ed Pricola, accepted by Lauren Pricola and Ryan Watson, accepted by Kaylie Watson Monday, May 22, 2023 during EMS Week

This annual award will be presented during EMS Week to a REMSA Health employee who demonstrates a commitment to the characteristics for which Ed and Ryan were known - a strong work ethic, dedication to achieving their goals, attention to detail, a commitment to excellence and a desire to care for their communities, as well as being motivational and upbeat, doing what's right, having integrity and taking initiative.

Care Flight Fixed-Wing Program Returned to Service Sunday, December 31, 2023

Care Flight-REMSA Health leadership, along with its board of directors, completed an extensive review to determine the need for the fixed-wing program to return to service. In a commitment to providing the highest levels of medical care transport to our community, the organization reinstated Care Flight's fixed-wing program with a return to service on Sunday, Dec. 31, 2023. Guardian Flight continued as the contracted aviation vendor for the Care Flight fixed-wing program. Guardian Flight continues to be responsible for aircraft maintenance, pilot training and pilot staffing.