

April 20, 2009

STATEMENT:

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Yesterday, April 19th, two and a half years after it vanished, the search for missing Cessna N2700Q, with its pilot and our daughter aboard, has ended. The plane was found in a narrow canyon ten miles northwest of Sedona. County and State agencies are in the process of investigating and providing official reports.

The list of people who helped in the search is long, and their efforts will be described in detail later, but for now I especially want to thank Chris Killian and his fellow members of the Missing Aircraft Search Team. It was Chris who finally made the break in the case that led to the plane's discovery, and for that we are eternally grateful.

Lynda had always hoped that something else would explain the disappearance of Marcy, and as a father, I hoped she was right. But as a pilot I had to accept the risk and realities of flying in small planes. We take solace now in knowing that--after nearly a thousand days without her, our beloved Marcy is finally coming home to rest.

Although the search for N2700Q is over, we know that other planes will fall, and that other families will suffer. It is for them that we will now begin a new search; a search for answers to hard questions that arose about how the official search was managed, and statements made by public officials involved in that search. We hope the answers to these questions will lead to improvements in the responsiveness of our public agencies, the manner in which they communicate with each other, and ultimately the effectiveness of future searches.

Today we rest though, and we remember Marcy and Bill, and we find peace and comfort in knowing that those who loved them now have the same closure that we have so fervently sought all these long months. For all the people who have helped and supported us in this, and for those who've expressed their sympathies, we can't thank you enough.

Phil and Lynda Randolph

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