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# Remains of naval aviators killed in Washington state training flight to return home



By AP staff (AP)

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This combination of undated photos released by the U.S. Navy shows left to right; Lt. Serena Wileman, a Naval Aviator, and Lt. Commander Lyndsay Evans, a Naval Flight Officer.

Courtesy of U.S. Navy / AP



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days, the Navy said.

The remains of Lt. Serena Wileman, a California native, were due to return on Monday, Whidbey Island Naval Air Station said. Lt. Cmdr. Lyndsay Evans' remains will return later during the week in a private affair in accordance with her family's wishes.

The [two died](#) when their EA-18G Growler jet from the Electronic Attack Squadron, known as "Zappers," [crashed east of Mount Rainier](#) on Oct. 15.

The crash occurred at about 6,000 feet in a remote, steep and heavily wooded area. The cause of the crash is under investigation.

**Related:** [US Navy fighter jet with two on board crashes during training in Washington state](#)

Evans, a naval flight officer from Palmdale, California, [made history](#) as part of a team of female pilots who conducted the first-ever all-female flyover of Super Bowl LVII on Feb. 12, 2023, to celebrate 50 years of women flying in the Navy.

The first female candidates entered the U.S. Navy flight school in 1973.

Wileman, a naval aviator, was commissioned in 2018 and [joined the Zapper squadron](#) on Washington state's Whidbey Island in 2021. She earned the National Defense Service Medal, Navy Unit Commendation Medal and a Combat Action Ribbon.

**Related:** [US Navy locates deceased Growler crew after crash near Washington's Mount Rainier](#)

The EA-18G Growler is a variant of the F/A-18F Super Hornet and [provides tactical jamming and electronic protection](#) to U.S. forces and allies, according to Boeing, its manufacturer. The first Growler was delivered to Whidbey Island in 2008.



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