

# Pilot Incapacitation: Student Pilot Went into Cardiac Arrest Behind the Controls Mid-flight

US Army Aviation Center (Alabama). Instructor landed plane - pilot was dead for 18 minutes!

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*Military watchdog site [TRMLX](#) broke the report based on messages from students, instructors and senior members within the chain of command.*

On August 18, the Fort Novosel (formerly Fort Rucker) student suffered a cardiac arrest while flying at a low altitude, according to TRMLX. The student suddenly slumped over the controls and his "stick buddy" had to pull him off. The instructor pilot (IP), according to TRMLX, took over and safely landed the plane onto the stage field and the second student immediately began performing CPR on the incapacitated student.

According to the report, paramedics performed life saving measures and he was medevac'd to the hospital in Dothan with his stick buddy riding along with him. They were able to resuscitate him en route using a defibrillator, TRMLX said.

Because the incident has been labeled a medical event rather than a "precautionary landing," the U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence (USAACE) will reportedly not be launching [an investigation](#).

One of the DACs (civilian) told me "we got a brief today; they aren't saying heart attack, but he lost consciousness and was air medevac'd to Dothan."

Instructors and cadre told a different story, however. One member of cadre told me, "yes, a student in Common Core had a heart attack. Yes, he was revived after 11 minutes." A couple of other messages echoed this statement. Then I spoke to a member of the medical response team. This person told me from start to finish, the student was gone for a total of 18 minutes. He was, indeed, revived with a defibrillator, and he factually went into cardiac arrest. This person flat out said he was dead and brought back to life.

## Sixth Pilot Incapacitation in Two Weeks, Three Pilot Deaths

[Aug.17, 2023](#) – IndiGo Flight (NAG-PNQ) Nagpur to Pune, India, pilot 40 year old Manoj Subramaniam died after collapsing at the boarding gate, about to board.

[Aug.16, 2023](#) – Qatar Airways Flight QR579 (DEL-DOH) Delhi to Doha, Qatar, 51 year old pilot collapsed as a passenger inflight and died, plane diverted to Dubai.

[Aug.14, 2023](#) – LATAM Flight LA505 (MIA-SCL) Miami to Santiago, Chile – 2 hours into 8hr flight, 56 year old Captain Ivan Andaur collapsed and died in the lavatory – plane diverted to Panama City!

[Aug.9, 2023](#) – United Airlines UAL1309 (SRQ-EWR) Sarasota to Newark, pilot had a heart attack and lost consciousness in flight

[Aug.7, 2023](#) – TigerAIR Flight IT237 (CTS-TPE) Sapporo to Taipei, copilot had a medical emergency after landing plane in Taipei

## Recent Pilot Incapacitations

[July 19, 2023](#) – Eurowings Discover Flight 4Y-1205 (HER-FRA) Heraklion to Frankfurt, pilot incapacitated, first officer took control, landed safely

[Jun.7, 2023](#) – Air Canada Flight ACA692 (YYZ-YYT) Toronto to St.John's, First Officer became incapacitated, deadheading Captain assumed duties

[Jun.4, 2023](#) – Cessna Citation N611VG flying Tennessee to Long Island, fighter jets spotted pilot slumped over in cockpit unconscious, plane crashed and all onboard died

[May 11, 2023](#) – HiSKy Flight H4474 (DUB-KIV) Dublin to Chisinau (Moldova), 20 min after liftoff pilot became "unable to act", plane diverted to Manchester

[May 4, 2023](#) – British Charter TUI Airways Flight BY-1424 (NCL-LPA) Newcastle to Las Palmas Spain pilot became ill, plane diverted back to NCL.

[April 4, 2023](#) – United Airlines Flight 2102 (BOI-SFO) – captain was incapacitated, first officer was only one in control of the aircraft.

[March 25, 2023](#) – TAROM Flight RO-7673 TSR-HRG diverted to Bucharest as 30 yo pilot had chest pain, then collapsed

[March 22, 2023](#) – Southwest Flight WN6013 LAS-CMH diverted as pilot collapsed shortly after take-off, replaced by non-Southwest pilot

[March 18, 2023](#) – Air Transat Flight TS739 FDF-YUL first officer was incapacitated about 200NM south of Montreal

[March 13, 2023](#) – Emirates Flight EK205 MXP-JFK diverted due to pilot illness hour and a half after take-off

[March 11, 2023](#) – United Airlines Flight UA2007 GUA-ORD diverted due to "incapacitated pilot" who had chest pains

[March 11, 2023?](#) – British Airways (CAI-LHR) pilot collapsed in Cairo hotel and died, was scheduled to fly Airbus A321 from Cairo to London

[March, 3, 2023](#) – Virgin Australia Flight VA-717 ADL-PER Adelaide to Perth flight was forced to make an emergency landing after First Officer suffered heart attack 30 min after departure.

## Recent Pilot Deaths

[Pilot Death July 16, 2023](#) – 2006 Piper Meridian, flying from Westchester NY, crashed at Martha's Vineyard Airport after pilot had medical emergency upon final approach and passenger took control of the plane and attempted a landing. Pilot, 79 year old Randolph Bonnist, died later in hospital.

[Pilot death – May 2023](#) – 4 Singapore Airlines pilots died suddenly in May 2023

[Pilot death – May 9, 2023](#) – United Airlines and US Air Force Pilot Lt. Col. Michael Fugett, age 46, died unexpectedly at his home

[Pilot death – May 3, 2023](#) – Air Transat and Air Canada Pilot Eddy Vorperian, age 48, died suddenly during layover in Croatia

[Pilot death – April 13, 2023](#) – Phil Thomas, graduate of Flight Training Pilot academy in Cadiz, Spain (FTEJerez) died suddenly.

[Pilot death – March 17, 2023](#) – 39 year old Westjet Pilot Benjamin Paul Vige died suddenly in Calgary

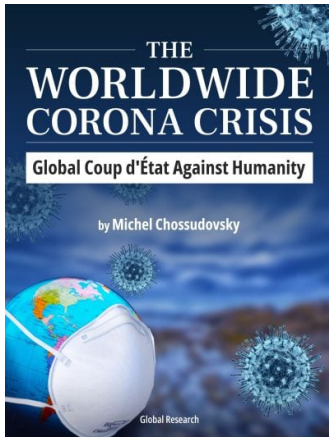
[Pilot death – March 11, 2023](#) – British Airways pilot died of heart attack in crew hotel in Cairo before a Cairo to London flight (name & age not released)

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