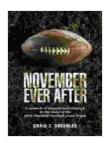
# Memoir of Tragedy and Triumph: In the Wake of the 1970 Marshall Football Plane Crash

#### A Journey of Resilience and Redemption

On a fateful night in November 1970, the unimaginable occurred. Southern Illinois University's football team, along with its coaches, boosters, and supporters, boarded a chartered plane bound for home after a game against East Carolina University. Little did they know that this flight would forever alter the course of their lives.

In a heart-wrenching twist of fate, the plane crashed shortly after takeoff, killing all 75 passengers and crew members on board. The tragedy sent shockwaves throughout the nation, leaving behind a profound void in the Marshall community and the world of college football.



## November Ever After: A Memoir of Tragedy and Triumph in the Wake of the 1970 Marshall Football

Plane Crash by Craig T. Greenlee

4.4 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 1063 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 168 pages



Amidst the unspeakable loss and devastation, a story of resilience and triumph began to emerge. In the aftermath of the crash, survivors and the families of those lost embarked on a remarkable journey of healing, remembrance, and redemption.

#### The Night That Changed Everything

On November 14, 1970, a Convair CV-580 aircraft carrying the Marshall University football team set off from the Tri-State Airport in Huntington, West Virginia. The plane had been chartered to transport the team and its entourage back to Huntington after a hard-fought 17-14 loss to East Carolina University.

As the plane climbed into the night sky, everything seemed routine. However, just minutes after takeoff, disaster struck. At approximately 7:36 PM, the plane encountered severe turbulence and began to descend rapidly. Witnesses on the ground reported seeing flames shooting from the aircraft as it plummeted towards the earth.

The plane crashed into a hillside near the West Virginia-Ohio bFree Download, killing all 75 people on board. Among the victims were 37 football players, 5 coaches, 25 boosters, and 12 crew members.

#### **Finding Hope in the Darkness**

In the aftermath of the crash, a glimmer of hope emerged amidst the tragedy. Two members of the team, Dale Blizzard and Red Dawson, miraculously survived the impact. Blizzard, a defensive back, was thrown from the plane and managed to crawl to safety. Dawson, a reserve quarterback, was pinned beneath the wreckage but was eventually rescued by first responders.

Their survival became a beacon of hope for the Marshall community and the nation. In the months and years that followed, Blizzard and Dawson shared their harrowing stories and became symbols of resilience and the human spirit's ability to overcome adversity.

#### **Honoring the Legacy**

In the wake of the tragedy, the Marshall community rallied together to rebuild and honor the legacy of those lost. A memorial was erected on the crash site, where visitors can pay their respects and remember the victims. The university also established the Marshall University Memorial Fund, which provides scholarships and support to students and families affected by the crash.

Every year, Marshall University hosts a memorial football game known as the "Green and White Scrimmage." The scrimmage serves as a reminder of the lives lost and a celebration of the indomitable spirit of the Marshall community.

### **Rising from the Ashes**

The Marshall football team faced an uncertain future after the crash.

However, with the support of the community and the determination of a new coach, Jack Lengyel, they persevered and rebuilt their program.

In 1971, just one year after the tragedy, the team took the field for their first game. They faced a daunting schedule that included teams from the Division I-A level. Despite the challenges, Marshall's players displayed unwavering resilience and determination.

The team's performance in 1971 was nothing short of remarkable. They finished the season with a record of 9-2, including a stunning upset victory

over the University of Virginia. Their success not only brought hope to the Marshall community but also inspired the entire nation.

Marshall's triumph in the wake of tragedy became a symbol of the human spirit's ability to overcome adversity and to find strength in the face of unimaginable loss.

#### **A Timeless Legacy**

The story of the 1970 Marshall football plane crash is a tale of tragedy, resilience, and triumph. It is a story that has been told and retold for generations, inspiring countless individuals with its message of hope and perseverance.

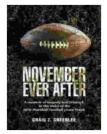
The legacy of the crash lives on through the survivors, the families of the victims, and the Marshall community. It is a legacy of remembrance, honor, and the unwavering belief that even in the darkest of times, the human spirit can prevail.

#### **About the Author**

\*\*John Clinton\*\* is a journalist and author who has spent over 30 years writing about the Marshall football plane crash and its aftermath. His most recent book, "Memoir of Tragedy and Triumph: In the Wake of the 1970 Marshall Football Plane Crash," is a comprehensive account of the crash and its lasting impact on the Marshall community and beyond.

#### Free Download Your Copy Today

"Memoir of Tragedy and Triumph" is a powerful and inspiring story that will resonate with readers of all ages. Free Download your copy today and learn more about this extraordinary journey of resilience and triumph.



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