

## Flight to Seattle

*By Cindy Peters*

It was one out of several flights I had made from Denver to Seattle to visit my friend Gini. However, this was a very different trip with a very different flight. I did not have a fear of flying but rather a fear of crashing. LOL. I had to fly a lot in my life for work in small prop planes so I developed a dislike for flying. But fly at times one must, I told myself.

Flying in and out of DIA is always expected to be a bit bumpy due to the air inversions from the mountains. However, on this particular day it was unusually calm until we reached the rainy state of Washington. The plane was dropping and then regaining altitude at various times. At times the plane was swaying from side to side and the wings of the plane seemed to be flopping. The plane was a 747 and I was sitting in an aisle seat with a sweet young woman sitting beside me in the middle seat and a woman who was a first time flyer seated by the window.

I admit that I am a nervous flyer and in these situations I am white knuckled, grasping onto my armrest and speechless. Passengers were restrained to their seats when the turbulence began, however the flight attendants tried to make the rounds and comfort passengers. The pilot ordered the flight attendants to go to their seats and buckle up. A few minutes later the pilot announced a possible emergency landing outside of Seattle.

The plane suddenly lunged down losing altitude as the plane was plummeted with hail, heavy rain and strong gusts of wind. Then unexpectedly, the first-time flyer seated by the window screamed, "The plane is going to crash and we are all going to die!" Then she unbuckled and threw her body across the woman in the middle seat and across my lap.

The woman in the middle seat assisted me in calming this woman down and getting her buckled into her seat. She introduced herself as a counselor with the International House of Prayer. She then began to recite one prayer after another. She brought calm and peace to the cabin. I thought she was an angel brought down from Heaven.

We made it to the Seattle Airport, however the gusts of wind became stronger as we hit the tarmac for landing. As the wheels of the plane touched down a huge gust of wind thrust the plane to the left side. However, the pilot was able to steady the plane so it did not flip on its side. Upon landing, the passengers cheered out of relief for landing safely.

I thanked the young prayer warrior and kept in touch with her for years, during which I sent donations to her organization. I believe we all could have died that day or at the very least been seriously injured. I believe there was divine intervention during that flight and all praise goes to the Lord.