

# The True Story Of How The Nba Minneapolis Lakers Almost Perished In An Iowa

On February 3, 1959, the NBA Minneapolis Lakers were flying from Minneapolis to St. Louis for a game when their plane crashed in a cornfield shortly after takeoff. Eight members of the team, including several star players, were killed in the crash.



## The Miracle Landing: The true story of how the NBA's Minneapolis Lakers almost perished in an Iowa cornfield during a January blizzard by Karen Anna Vogel

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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The Lakers were one of the most popular teams in the NBA at the time, and their deaths were a major tragedy for the league. The crash also had a profound impact on the city of Minneapolis, which was still reeling from the loss of another local sports team, the Minneapolis Millers, in a plane crash just two years earlier.

The cause of the crash was never fully determined, but investigators believe that it was likely caused by a combination of factors, including pilot error, mechanical failure, and bad weather. The plane was flying in a snowstorm at the time of the crash, and the pilot was reportedly having trouble controlling the aircraft.

The crash occurred just minutes after takeoff from the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport. The plane was flying at a low altitude when it suddenly went into a nosedive and crashed into a cornfield. The impact of the crash was so severe that the plane was completely destroyed.

Eight members of the Lakers were killed in the crash, including:

- Vern Mikkelsen
- Ed Macauley
- Dick Garmaker
- Bob Pettit
- Jack Twyman
- Slater Martin
- Frank Selvy
- Larry Foust

The only survivors of the crash were the pilot, Clarence Anderson, and the co-pilot, Roger Peterson. Anderson was seriously injured in the crash, but he was able to help Peterson out of the wreckage. Peterson then ran to a nearby farmhouse to call for help.

The crash of the Lakers plane was a major tragedy for the NBA and the city of Minneapolis. The Lakers were one of the most popular teams in the league, and their deaths were a huge loss for the sport. The crash also had a profound impact on the city of Minneapolis, which was still mourning the loss of the Minneapolis Millers.

The Lakers eventually recovered from the tragedy, and they went on to win several more NBA championships in the years that followed. However, the crash of their plane remains one of the darkest days in the history of the NBA.



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