



One Year After Fatal Amtrak Crash, Grieving Loved Ones Are Still Searching for Answers: 'Why? Why Did This Happen?'

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It's been exactly a year since Amtrak. No. 188 derailed in Philadelphia, killing eight people and injuring more than 200.

As families continue to grieve for their loved ones who died in the May 12, 2015 crash – and others still cope with debilitating injuries – they continue to ask a still-unanswered question: What happened?

"Why? Why? Why could this happen? Why was he going so fast? Why didn't he slow down?" Larry Saia, whose best friend, Giuseppe Piras, 40, was killed in the wreck, told New York's *Daily News*. "We can't bring Giuseppe back, I know. But they could tell us how – why – this happened. I just want answers for me and the other families."

Brandon Bostian, the engineer for the Amtrak train, suffered a concussion in the crash and has no memory of the derailment, which happened as the train was traveling over 100 mph into a 50 mph curve when it approached a bend in the tracks.

"Here we are, a year later, and no survivors and no family of any of the victims have been given a word of explanation," attorney Judith Livingston, who represents one of the families, told the newspaper. "That is so unfair. They are entitled to know what happened here."

But answers finally might come next week for families including Eli Kulp, a top chef who was left paralyzed from the neck down.

On Tuesday, the National Transportation Safety Board is meeting to conclude the year-long investigation and will possibly reveal probable cause.

"While the NTSB might independently come up with findings, the families look to those who were involved – Amtrak and Mr. Bostian – to take responsibility," lawyer Tom Kline, who represents several victims told the *Daily News*.

But conclusive answers will only do so much for the grieving families.

"Susan and Howard are very brave parents coping with the loss of their wonderful son Justin to the best of their abilities," Lucie Limongelli, a close friend of the parents of Justin Zemser, 20, who was killed in the crash, tells PEOPLE. "They keep themselves busy by continuing on with some of the programs Justin was involved in and beginning new ones."

They also started a football tournament in his honor at the high school he attended.

Back in May, Limongelli told PEOPLE that "Justin was truly the best child you could have asked for. He was the perfect child."

Eli Kulp, who lives in New York City with his wife, Marisa, and 4-year-old son Dylan, is still just taking it day by day.

"We're both going through a huge emotional process in two different ways. Eli is grieving a lot of things that he lost, because he's lost so much," Marisa told PEOPLE in December. "I'm trying hard not to focus too much on the grief because if I do, it would just completely overwhelm me."