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A Run to Remember

By Karen Fanning

October 13—In memory of the passengers and flight crews who died in the September 11 terrorist attacks, hundreds of American and United airline employees kicked off a cross-country run in Boston, Massachusetts, on Thursday.



A Run to Remember. Sidebar Animation courtesy Captain Mark Hunnibell/[Flag Across America](#)

The coast-to-coast marathon retraces the voyages of Flights 11 and 175, which were bound for Los Angeles, California, before they crashed into the World Trade Center shortly after leaving Boston.

Runners will carry the American flag relay-style through New York, Washington, Atlanta, Dallas, Oklahoma City, Albuquerque, and Phoenix, on route to Los Angeles International Airport. Along the way, military personnel will help carry the flag, which recently flew over Iraq in the cockpit of a U.S. F-16 fighter jet during Operation Southern Watch on October 2.

Flag Across America organizers expect the flag to arrive in Los Angeles on November 11, Veterans Day. Money raised from the event will benefit surviving family members.

“We decided to do this because we wanted a way to honor our fallen comrades,” American Airlines pilot Todd Wissing told reporters. “We wanted to show our patriotism, our American resolve, and raise money for the families of the victims.”

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