

Sen. Stevens Moves to Rename Akhiok Airport

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Jay Barrett/KMXT

Kodiak Senator Gary Stevens has introduced a bill that would rename the airport in Akhiok after two Kodiak pilots who were killed in plane crashes in recent years.

Senate Bill 31 would change the name of the state-owned airport in south Kodiak Island community to the "Jim Andie and Robin Starrett Memorial Runway."

The 49-year-old Andie, a pilot for Paklook Air, was killed about six miles from Kodiak when the de Havilland Otter he was piloting hit trees in September 2011. Two passengers survived, one with serious injuries.

The 50-year-old Starrett was a pilot for Servant Air when the Piper Navajo Chieftain he was flying crashed off the end of the Kodiak airport in January 2008. Five other men, all Old Believers on their way to Homer for Russian Christmas, were killed. Four survived.