

Alumnus loses life in terrorist hijacking

By Lisa Butt

DAILY STAFF WRITER

Carol Heiderich said is the most memorable about her brother, Jason Dahl, was "how much he's loved by people and how he loved people."

In his mother's living room, flowers from loved ones surround his picture.

"He was a wonderful son. He looked out for everybody," said Mildred Dahl, his mother.

Capt. Jason Dahl, an alumnus of San Jose State Universi-

ty, was the pilot of United Airlines Flight 93 that crashed in rural Pennsylvania last Tuesday.

Those close to him say they believe he was the reason why the terrorists' plans of crashing into a more populated area did not succeed.

"There were no angels there, he did it all," said Tom Leonard, Dahl's aviation professor at SJSU. "Anything that could've been done, he did ... he did an admirable thing."

"He had a difficult decision,"

said Dahl's brother-in-law, Bill Heiderich. "He would've said 'you will not get my plane.'"

He said that he believes Dahl did "everything he could" because of how serious he took his job.

"I'm sure he knew what happened (at the World Trade Center and at the Pentagon)," Bill Heiderich said. "He wouldn't allow them to be the fourth."

Bill Heiderich said he felt that Dahl "stalled, tricked and fought" with the terrorists, but "defiance got him killed"

because he "wouldn't let his plane go."

He also said he believes Dahl was no longer in control of the plane because he could have landed it.

"He's a poster board for United," Bill Heiderich said.

According to a resume Dahl gave Leonard, he was a member of the National Honor Society and tennis team at Andrew Hill High School in San Jose.

He was also the photogra-

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Jason Dahl