



## 1985 - 2010 and counting . . .

### 25th Anniversary of Helix Messenger Newsletter

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1985 was a year like any other. Things happened, some of enormous consequence and some not. One item of importance, at least to Helix Courier Limited, was the publishing of the very first edition of our Messenger Newsletter. How the Messenger came to be, we will discuss elsewhere in this special 25th Anniversary edition. First, here are a few important dates in 1985, and why they were significant:

**March 20** — First woman wins Iditarod. On Wednesday, March 20, 1985, at 9:00 a.m., Libby Riddles became the first woman to win the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race®, the dog-pulling sled race from Anchorage to Nome, Alaska.

**March 21** — Canadian paraplegic athlete and humanitarian Rick Hansen begins his circumnavigation in a wheelchair in the name of spinal cord injury medical research.

**May 30** — Edmonton Oilers win Stanley Cup. The 1985 Stanley Cup Finals was played between the defending champion Edmonton Oilers in their third-straight finals appearance and the Philadelphia Flyers. The Oilers would win the best-of-seven series four games to one, to win their second Stanley Cup.

**June 23** — Terrorists Bomb Air India Flight 182, a flight operating on the Toronto-Montréal-London-Delhi-Bombay route.

On June 23, 1985, the airplane operating on the route was blown up by a bomb, midair in Irish airspace, in the single deadliest terrorist attack involving an aircraft to that date.

The plane, a Boeing 747-237B, exploded at an altitude of 31,000 feet (9,400 m) and crashed into the Atlantic Ocean. While some passengers survived the explosion and catastrophic decompression, survivors quickly succumbed to the frigid North Atlantic waters. In all, 329 people perished, among them 280 Canadians and 22 Indian nationals.

Investigation and prosecution took almost 20 years and was the most expensive trial in Canadian history, costing nearly CAD \$130 million. A special Commission found the accused perpetrators not guilty and they were released. The only person convicted of involvement in the bombing was Inderjit Singh Reyat, who pleaded guilty in 2003 to manslaughter in constructing the bomb used on Flight 182 and received a five-year sentence. He was refused parole in July 2007.

**July 3 1985** — “*Back To The Future*” is released. Back to the Future is a 1985 science fiction adventure film directed by Robert Zemeckis, co-written by Bob Gale and produced by Steven Spielberg. The film stars Michael J. Fox as Marty McFly, as well as Christopher Lloyd, Crispin Glover, Lea Thompson and Thomas F. Wilson. Back to the Future tells the story of Marty McFly, a teenager who is accidentally sent back in time from 1985 to 1955. He meets his parents in high school, accidentally attracting his mother’s romantic interest. Marty must repair the damage to history by causing his parents to fall in love, while finding a way to return to 1985.

**September 4** — Helix Courier Limited is seventeen years old in 1985. Chrystyna Pedde, wife of Helix owner Sieg Pedde, publishes Volume I, Number I, of the Helix ‘Messenger’ newsletter.

**September 13** — Steve Jobs leaves Apple Computer. After an extended internal power struggle between Steve Jobs and new Apple CEO John Sculley, Apple’s board of directors sided with Sculley. Jobs, who co-founded Apple with Steve Wozniak, was asked to resign.

After leaving Apple, Jobs co-founded the visual effects powerhouse, Pixar and also NeXT Inc., a computer company that built machines with futuristic designs and ran the UNIX-derived NeXTstep operating system.

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On December 20, 1996, Apple Computer announced to the public that it would buy NeXT for the price of \$427 million and would base the next version of the Mac OS on NeXTstep. Steve Jobs returned to Apple as advisor and eventually was running the company again.

**September 19** — A magnitude 8.1 earthquake, struck Mexico City at 7:19 a.m. local time, killing about 10,000 people and causing serious damage in the nation's capital. The event caused between three and four billion USD in damage as 412 buildings collapsed and 3,124 others were seriously damaged in the city.

**October 26:** The first Blockbuster Video store opens in Dallas, Texas.

**November 18:** Calvin and Hobbes, a comic strip by Bill Watterson, was first published.

**December 27** — American naturalist Dian Fossey is found murdered in Rwanda. She had conducted an extensive study of gorilla groups over a period of 18 years in the mountain forests of Rwanda.

### Another Helix

1985 saw the release of *Long Way to Heaven*, the fifth studio album by Helix, a Canadian hard rock/heavy metal band. Helix formed in 1974 and the band members were originally from Kitchener. Helix is best known for the 1984 single "Rock You". The surviving members of the 80's lineup reunited in 2009 for an album and continue to tour in 2010. The band is fronted by Brian Vollmer who now lives in London, Ontario.

Helix has toured with bands such as Kiss, Aerosmith, Rush, Mötley Crüe, Alice Cooper, Whitesnake, Night Ranger, Heart, Quiet Riot, W.A.S.P., Ian Gillan, and Motörhead among others. Their most recent studio album is 2009's *Vagabond Bones*.

Before the band Helix became too well-known, Helix Courier Limited staff would go to see them perform at The Ridout, a bar that has long since vanished from the London entertainment scene.

### Top 15 Hits in 1985

(Derived from Billboard's Hottest Hot 1985 100 Hits)

Does anyone still remember these hits from 25 years ago?

1. "Careless Whisper".....Wham!
2. "Say You, Say Me".....Lionel Richie
3. "Separate Lives".....Phil Collins & Marilyn Martin
4. "I Want To Know What Love Is".....Foreigner
5. "Money For Nothing".....Dire Straits
6. "We Are The World".....USA for Africa
7. "Broken Wings".....Mr. Mister
8. "Everybody Wants To Rule The World".....Tears for Fears
9. "The Power Of Love".....Huey Lewis & The News
10. "We Built This City".....Starship
11. "St. Elmo's Fire".....John Parr
12. "Can't Fight This Feeling".....REO Speedwagon
13. "Crazy For You".....Madonna
14. "Easy Lover".....Phillip Bailey & Phil Collins
15. "Everytime You Go Away".....Paul Young

### The Long and Winding Road

On September 4th, 2010, Helix Courier will be 42 years old. With apologies to Beatles John Lennon and Paul McCartney's song of the same name, it truly has been a long and winding road. A lot happens over the course of a business lifetime. A lot of work, frustration and heartache are part of building any business. I have said many times that I have the absolute best crew of individuals helping keep Helix the top local courier/messenger company. Helix' success is the result of the sound business practices and respect for our customers to which we all adhere.

Today, I would like to give special thanks to my wife Chrystyna who for 25 years has published the *Helix Courier Messenger Newsletter* every month. I am deeply grateful to her and her dedication to the task.

Twenty-five years is a long time to do anything. For Chrystyna to devote part of every month researching and assembling the Messenger is appreciated by me and apparently by our customers as well. We hope to keep on publishing the Messenger for another twenty-five years and appreciate the fact that many customers pass the newsletter around their office so that everyone can get to read it.

We also make a PDF version of the Messenger available by email. If you would like to receive your copy electronically, send an email to [info@helixcourier.com](mailto:info@helixcourier.com) with 'email Messenger' in the subject line and we'll add you to our list.

For several months, there will be two versions of the Helix Messenger every month. One will look as it has for years and will be 'retro' in the sense that it will feature events large and small that have occurred between 1985 and the present. The other will be a 'new' version, with an updated header and it will offer current information and content.

We hope you enjoy the Messenger and that you will enjoy it for many years to come.

Thank you for being a loyal Helix Courier customer, supplier, or just a friend among the many we have made over the years. Without you, we would be just another courier company.

Sieg Pedde, *President, Helix Courier Limited*

