

## **Ted Thompson**

Family and friends of Alaska Airlines Capt. Ted Thompson, the pilot of Flight 261, gathered at his Redlands, Calif., home Tuesday to grieve and console.

The sign on the door read, "The family is in seclusion. Please respect our privacy and our grief."

At a news conference, Thompson's son Fred thanked well-wishers, offered his family's sympathy for fellow victims and asked for privacy.

Ted Thompson, 53, flew C-141 cargo planes for eight years for the Air Force before becoming a commercial jet pilot for Alaska Airlines in 1982. Thompson had 10,000 flying hours with Alaska Airlines, and was a flight safety instructor for the company.