

THE WCR LEARNING COMMUNITY

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Photo: Public domain
Helen flew a Cessna plane

Adapted from *The Vancouver Sun*

Woman, 80, lands plane

Level 1

Helen Collins flies to Florida
with her husband.

They enjoy eating and sitting by the ocean
at Easter.

John Collins, 81, is a pilot. They start
to fly home.

He does not feel well. He cannot fly
the plane. He takes off his seatbelt.

He lies down on the floor.

Suddenly, it is very quiet. John has died.

Helen calls 911. She stays calm.
She flew a plane 30 years ago.
But she never flew this one.

People want to help.

Another man, Rob, jumps into a plane.

He is a flying teacher.

He flies beside her. He tells

her what to do on his radio.

For 90 minutes they fly in circles
and practice.

Helen: "I'm running out of gas."

Rob: "No, you're doing fine."

Helen: "No...my right engine is out."

Now Helen must land.

Rob tells her what to do: "Power off,
power off, nose up. O.K. you're down.
Great job, Helen, great job!"

The plane bounces 35 feet and stops.

Helen is lucky. She only hurts her back.

Her son is sad. He lost his father.

But he is happy that his mother is alive.