**Amelia Earhart**

**Background**

Amelia Earhart is known as one of the world’s first female pup. She left a legacy of tireless determination, courage, and strength. Earhart broke many aviation records before mysteriously disappearing over the Pacific Ocean while on her first flight around the world.

**Early Life**

Amelia Mary Earhart was born in, Atchison, Kansas on July 24, 1897. Back then, girls only wore dresses, but Earhart didn’t like that. Her mother let her wear pants so she could play like the boys. She enjoyed playing football and fishing as a child.

**First Flight**

In 1920, Earhart attended an air show in California and rode in an aeroplane for the first time. The pilot only flew her a couple of hundred feet in the air. She was only in the air for 10 minutes, but that’s all it took. After that short flight, Earhart knew that she wanted to become a pilot.

**Flying Lessons**

At 23 years old, Earhart decided it was time to take flying lessons. She also bought her first plane, which was bright yellow. She nicknamed her plane “The Canary”. Earhart soon earned her pilot’s license and became the first woman to fly 4.2km high.

**The Ninety-Nines**

Earhart had a passion for women’s rights and cared deeply about the future of women in flight. She wanted to make sure other women have the same opportunities to fly as she did. In 1929, Earhart founded the Ninety-Nines, a group that supported women pilots. This group included 99 women pilots from all over the United States. Earhart served as the group’s first president.

**First Solo Flight**

In May 1932, Earhart set off on her first solo flight. When she landed, 14 hours and 56 minutes later, she was the first woman to fly alone across the Atlantic Ocean. Earhart also set a new time record for the route. For her accomplishment, President Herbert Hoover awarded her with the Distinguished Flying Cross medal. She was the first woman to achieve this honour.

**Becoming Famous**

Earhart quickly became famous. She continued to set aviation records as she made a series of flights. Earhart never ceased in her support of women involved in aviation, and even encouraged other women to join. She also began travelling around the world sharing her love of flying with kids.

**The Flight Around The World**

On May 20, 1937, Earhart left Oakland, California for her final flight. Her goal was to fly around the world. Earhart took long navigator, Fred Noonan, to help her find the way. Sadly, their plane, vanished over the Pacific Ocean. On July 2, her radio lost contact, and a rescue attempt began immediately. The search for Earhart and Newnan became the biggest air and sea search in naval history. The US Army and Navy, along with the Japanese Navy sent out searchers. However, no one ever found the two pilots or the plane.

**Mysterious Disappearance**

Today, we still don’t know what happened to Earhart or Noonan. Some people think they ran out of fuel and crashed into the Pacific Ocean. Others think they landed on an island and were stranded there. Searchers have found some evidence to support this theory, such as glass that may have come from the window of the plane, a woman’s shoe dating back to the 1930’s, and a cosmetics jar from the 1930’s.