



The Phoenix Lights: The mystery remains

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PHOENIX (CBS5) - It is the most famous so-called UFO sighting in the world. "The Phoenix Lights" captured the world's attention 17 years ago on March 13, 1997.

Every year new witnesses come forward to tell the story they kept to themselves all those years. One man who still wants to remain anonymous told CBS 5 News he was working on his roof air conditioner around 8 p.m. that evening when he saw it. He said he never told anyone outside his family until this year.

There are only four known videos that capture what happened in the sky over the Phoenix area. Each one shows a slightly different view of a series of lights out west. They blink on for a few minutes, then disappear.

The U.S. military maintains those lights were part of a training session involving flares dropped over the Barry M. Goldwater Range near Gila Bend, AZ.

Witnesses like Sue Watson believe differently, because they saw something else.

"Evidently what we saw that night was one of the biggest reported UFOs ever," she said.

Watson and her family live in East Phoenix. She said that night they all watched an enormous black aircraft cruise slow and low over Camelback Mountain headed south.

"It was like a [shopping] mall flying over my home," she said of the craft, described by multiple witnesses as being over a mile wide.

"Seriously, when it flew over it was beautiful," Watson said. "It had these lights in front and then it was totally illuminated underneath, like a yellowish amber. It was a totally rounded boomerang shape."

UFO investigator Larry Lowe has produced a short film, *Prescott Witness*, that includes an animated version of the craft that matches witness descriptions better than any rendering up to this point. It tells the story of a new witness who came forward for the first time in January. The animated craft cruises over the Valley, blocking out the stars to those underneath.

But after 17 years, no video or photos have surfaced of that mystery aircraft. Watson says she had a camera, but could not tear her eyes away from the amazing sight overhead.

"I didn't want to stop watching it," she said. "And then by the time I got out with a camera it passed our house. We kept watching it over our roof going south and then it just shot off! If only I'd had the camera earlier!"

The most famous witness to the phenomenon is Dr. Lynne Kitei. The North Phoenix women's health physician eventually produced a documentary, *The Phoenix Lights* which will be shown this weekend. The event will feature appearances with Kitei and other witnesses.

The 1 p.m. showing at Harkins' Shea theater is expected to sell out. You can learn more [here](#).

Did you see anything like this on March 13, 1997? Tell us what you think in the comments below.

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Maureen Cecelia Pryce Goode · Owner-operator at M Cecelia Montessori Classroom Design Consultant

My husband Ron and I were driving home after our daughter, Jennifer's flute recital at NAU, on the night of March 13th. We were driving in a southly down route 17, when I noticed an object with lights in perfect formation of a boomerang headed towards us. It was a distance away at first, but as we approached it, I immediaty told my husband to slow down. He said he couldn't because he needed to keep his eyes on the road, but he couldn't help but see! I told him but Ron there's something so huge with lights that you have to see! He saw it too! We were both amazed and in awe of what it could be. It was coming from over a small mountain ridge towards 17 from the west. It was so large we couldn't imagine what it could be. It didn't make any noise on its approach. We thought a craft of that size would! We both thought that it was a secret government plane being tested in the Arizona desert at night. However, it was mysterious to us. It's size and there wasn't any sound. My husband had worked as a plane captain in the US Navy on the USS Enterprise and he knew the sound of jet engines, so he said he couldn't believe it didn't make a sound!!!! It just seemed to float towards us as we were coming down the highway. To talk about the lights, they were in perfect position to each other and there was a distinct round shape with one in front! I have to say that when I first saw it, I saw it from the side as we were coming down 17 and the lights were straight, but The closer we got to it, as I looked out the front and then out my side window of our blazer, it had the distinct shape of a boomerang!!! But at the same time it had some kind of depth to it. It was dark outside, but there seemed to be a connection between the lights somehow because they were so perfectly aligned! It was flying very low too! Please remember, that we were moving in a vehicle and moving southerly as it was approaching us from the west very slowly as we could. It was tremendous in size and I've never seen anything so big in my life!!! I was wanting my husband to pull over, but he was not wanting to. At any rate we saw it, I wanted to call someone, when we got home because We knew we had seen a UFO! My husband said that we'd hear about it on tv or read about it in the news! He was tired and so was I, so we went to bed. AND we did!!!! Well, here I am, years later, letting you know that two more people saw the unidentified flying object that floated gently over Phoenix on March 13, 1997 !!!! If you ask me if I believe in extra terrestrial beings, I would have to say that I would be a very narrow minded person if I didn't! I do know what my husband and I saw was real because we saw it with our own eyes. It was as if it wanted us to see it. I'm glad we did. My husband passed away in 2012 and I'm glad he got to see something that could not possibly have been of this world...

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Phillip Casteel · Redelephants.com at Redelephants.com

Me my wife Sherry and Doughter Brae seen the same thing the night before on March 12 over Decatur, AL the biggest thing I ever seen in the sky!

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Moe Mehrashena · Works at Arizona Bridge to Independent Living

I wold love to believe March 13 1997 Phoenix Lights was an alien aircraft butt unfortunately it is not..it is man made because of its shape....now this is a Russian aircraft ,Wing shape ,nuclear power and it is big.

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