

April 23, 2003

“I recently returned from a detail to Nacogdoches, Texas. I was a GPS Technical Specialist for the Columbia Space Shuttle Recovery Mission. I was wondering how many of your students participated in this event? I felt that your training MORE than adequately prepared me for this assignment. I was responsible for flagging out 2 mile by 2 mile survey grids for the search teams. I felt very comfortable about using waypoints that were uploaded into my GPS and navigating to the corner points. The timber and canopy became so thick after the trees leafed out that I found my basic compass skills were invaluable also. It would be good to include compass skills in future GPS classes. It still comes in handy. A tornado occurred in the Nacogdoches area during my assignment. I used the road map in the GPS to go north on until a northwest road could be found. It worked great for that also. Kind of made a person think about the movie Tornado and storm chasers. Anyway, keep me informed on future training from your group. Thanks for your help in making my assignment a success. Cheers!”

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