

DR.

Chase Skylar DeMayo

Near-death experienter | U.S. Air Force veteran | Speaker



Purpose, connection, and life after profound change.

A deeply personal story of survival, a distinctive military perspective, and an invitation to carry more love and laughter into everyday life.

IANDS 2024 keynote speaker | Featured on Fox News and Telemundo | Military.com, September 2026

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THE STORY

The story behind the speaker.

Before he shared his own extraordinary experience, Chase Skylar DeMayo told the stories of others as a U.S. Air Force Public Affairs journalist at Langley Air Force Base.

On April 1, 2008, at age 20, he experienced cardiac arrest. His account of what followed describes light, peace, love, and an encounter with someone he understood to be Jesus. For approximately twelve years, he kept the experience largely private.

Chase describes a Wounded Warrior Project Project Odyssey retreat in 2020 as a turning point in opening up. Today, his work explores how people find language, connection, and purpose after experiences that change their understanding of life.

His military perspective is distinctive, but his invitation is broad: make room for honest questions, different beliefs, everyday joy, and the possibility of feeling less alone.



Current professional portrait from Chase's September 2026 headshot session.

Military background

U.S. Air Force Public Affairs journalist
Langley Air Force Base, Virginia

April 1, 2008

Cardiac arrest at age 20; personal NDE account.

A Camaraderie Foundation board member, Chase also serves as Senior Audio Strategy Lead at Audacy Orlando. His speaking work and personal NDE advocacy are separate from his civilian media career.

[Read the full biography](#) | [Official Air Force byline](#)

Education and professional context

Doctorate in Holistic Counseling
University of Sedona

B.S. in Alternative Medicine
Everglades University

Master of Metaphysical Science (M.Msc.)
University of Sedona

Graduate Certificate in Life Coaching
Grand Canyon University

Military journalism training: Defense Information School. Dr. refers to Chase's nonclinical doctorate. He is not a medical doctor or licensed mental health provider. His work shares personal testimony, spiritual interpretation, and educational information.

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

Bring Chase to your audience.

Keynotes and conversations for general audiences and the military and veteran community. In-person and virtual formats are available by arrangement.

Chase the Light

What Surviving Death Taught Me About Living

A personal keynote connecting Chase's near-death experience with the choices that shape ordinary life: purpose, gratitude, love, humor, and renewed connection.

Audience: Conferences, corporate and civic audiences, faith communities, and the general public.

Format: 30–60 minutes; optional audience Q&A.

Focus: Reflection on what matters, perspective after hardship, and practical ways to make room for joy.

The Silent Return

Military NDEs and the Gap in Support

A veteran's perspective on silence, identity, disclosure, and returning to everyday life after a profound experience. The discussion creates space for listening without requiring a shared spiritual belief.

Audience: Veteran organizations, military families, chaplains, NDE conferences, and care communities.

Format: 45–75 minutes; discussion or workshop format by arrangement.

Focus: Disclosure barriers, respectful first responses, and pathways to credible resources.

Twelve Years of Silence

An intimate discussion of vulnerability, fear of being misunderstood, and the decision to speak publicly.

30–45 minutes plus conversation.

Supporting Veterans Who Return Changed

An educational program for families, veteran organizations, chaplains, and community leaders.

45–60 minutes; in person or virtual.

Program fit, timing, travel, and fees are confirmed for each engagement.

[Request availability](#)

NATIONAL TELEVISION & NEWS

Seen across national media.

Selected broadcast interviews and editorial coverage, linked directly to the original publishers.

Fox News: Saturday in America

National television interview | March 28, 2026

Chase joined Kayleigh McEnany to discuss his 2008 Air Force medical crisis, remembered near-death experience, years of silence, and the meaning he took from the encounter.

[Watch the Fox News interview](#)

Telemundo: Al Rojo Vivo

National Spanish-language television feature | November 26, 2025

Telemundo's Al Rojo Vivo featured Chase's account of collapsing at an Air Force base in Virginia and what he remembers from his near-death experience.

[Watch the Telemundo feature](#)

Military.com

Independent national feature | September 12, 2026

Derrick Dennis reports on Chase's experience and the other veterans who began sharing their own stories.

[Read the Military.com feature](#)

Action News Jax

Independent local reporting | 2021

Chase is interviewed about participating in Wounded Warrior Project and wanting to help other veterans.

[Read the Action News Jax story](#)

Publisher titles and captions may use wording that differs from Chase's verified age, military role, or medical framing. Use the Press Fact Sheet for reference.

SELECTED INTERVIEWS & FEATURES

Explore the conversations.

Long-form interviews, institutional conversations, and a published first-person account.

Round Trip Death

Podcast interview | September 8, 2026

Chase discusses his Air Force service, remembered NDE, years of silence, and life afterward.

[Listen to Round Trip Death](#)

IANDS: Afterlife Revealed

Organization-produced podcast | July 23, 2025

A conversation about his personal experience and the process of sharing it.

[Listen to the IANDS episode](#)

Coming Home

Video interview | December 14, 2023

A filmed interview exploring the NDE and his reflections on love, laughter, and purpose.

[Watch the Coming Home interview](#)

NDE Radio with Lee Witting

Podcast interview | January 18, 2021

An early public conversation about Chase's experience and supporting fellow veterans.

[Listen to NDE Radio](#)

We Touched Heaven

Chase's account appears in this collection by Claudia Watts Edge. He is a contributor, not the book's author.

[View the author's book page](#) | [Complete media archive](#)

FOR HOSTS AND PRODUCERS

Go beyond the headline.

Finding a voice: The personal cost of silence and what makes it possible to tell an extraordinary story.

Life after service: Identity, medical retirement, peer connection, and discovering another way to serve.

Living with purpose: Love, spiritual meaning, laughter, and the ordinary moments that give a second chance substance.

Suggested interview questions

What do you remember about April 1, 2008, and how do you separate those memories from the medical facts?

What made it difficult to talk about the experience for approximately twelve years?

What changed during Project Odyssey that helped you begin sharing?

How did medical retirement affect your identity and sense of purpose?

What have you learned from listening to other military and veteran experiencers?

How can a family member respond with curiosity and care without having to share the same beliefs?

How do love, laughter, and the message of Chase the Light show up in your everyday life?

What would you say to someone who has never had an NDE but is searching for meaning after a difficult change?

Suggested on-air or stage introduction

Our guest is Dr. Chase Skylar DeMayo, a U.S. Air Force veteran, near-death experiencer, and speaker. After cardiac arrest at age 20, Chase kept his experience largely private for twelve years. Today, he shares a deeply personal perspective on purpose, connection, and life after profound change, including the experiences of military members and veterans. Please welcome Chase.

For pronunciation, recording arrangements, and image credits, contact Chase directly. Honest questions and differing beliefs are welcome.

[My NDE](#) | [Contact Chase](#)

COPY-READY BIOGRAPHIES

Biographies ready to use.

Choose the length that fits your event listing, introduction, episode notes, or article.

Short biography | 50 words

Dr. Chase Skylar DeMayo is a U.S. Air Force veteran, near-death experiencer, speaker, and advocate. Through Chase the Light, he explores purpose, love, and life after profound change, with a distinctive focus on military and veteran experiences. He delivered a keynote at the 2024 IANDS International Conference in Phoenix, Arizona.

Medium biography | 100 words

Dr. Chase Skylar DeMayo is a U.S. Air Force veteran, near-death experiencer, speaker, and advocate based in Central Florida. On April 1, 2008, at age 20, he experienced cardiac arrest while serving at Langley Air Force Base. He kept his near-death experience private for twelve years. He speaks about purpose, love, identity, and life afterward, especially military and veteran experiences. A 2024 IANDS keynote speaker and 2025 featured speaker, Chase holds a nonclinical doctorate in Holistic Counseling and a Master of Metaphysical Science from the University of Sedona. His work shares testimony and education, not medical or mental health treatment.

Extended biography | 200 words

Dr. Chase Skylar DeMayo is a U.S. Air Force veteran, near-death experiencer, speaker, writer, and advocate based in Central Florida. He served as a Public Affairs journalist at Langley Air Force Base, documenting people and missions.

On April 1, 2008, at age 20, Chase experienced cardiac arrest and what he describes as a near-death experience involving light, love, peace, and an encounter with someone he understood to be Jesus. He kept it private for twelve years. He describes a Wounded Warrior Project Project Odyssey retreat in 2020 as a turning point toward sharing it.

Chase delivered a keynote at the IANDS 2024 International Conference in Phoenix and was a featured speaker in 2025. He moderated military and veteran experiencer discussions and contributed his account to *We Touched Heaven* by Claudia Watts Edge. His story has been featured by Fox News, Telemundo, and Military.com.

He holds a nonclinical doctorate in Holistic Counseling and a Master of Metaphysical Science from the University of Sedona, and serves on the Camaraderie Foundation board. He is not a medical doctor or licensed mental health provider. Through Chase the Light, he invites audiences to explore purpose, connection, and joy with curiosity, compassion, and room for laughter.

[Current Press Fact Sheet](#) | [Full biography and credentials](#)

BOOKING AND EDITORIAL RESOURCES

Let's start a conversation.

Media and speaking inquiries

chasedemayo@gmail.com | ChaseDeMayo.com | [Send an inquiry](#)

Based in Central Florida. Include your organization or outlet, event date or editorial deadline, topic, location or virtual format, and audience.

Photography available by request



Current portrait



Military service



Onstage

Photographs shown were supplied by Chase. Contact him for publication files, photographer credits, and permission for your intended use. Third-party footage and organizational logos require their own clearance.

Accurate framing

Use U.S. Air Force Public Affairs journalist, Langley Air Force Base, April 1, 2008, age 20, and cardiac arrest. His NDE memories and spiritual interpretation are personal testimony.

Chase's University of Sedona graduate degrees are nonclinical. His speaking is educational and does not provide medical or mental health care.

Editorial reference links

[Current biography and press facts](#) | [Official Air Force byline](#)

[Fox News interview](#) | [Telemundo feature](#) | [Military.com feature](#)

[IANDS 2024 institutional event listing](#) | [Camaraderie Foundation profile](#)

[Instagram: @drchaseskylar](#) | [YouTube channel](#) | [LinkedIn profile](#)

September 2026 edition. Listed appearances identify participation or coverage, not organizational endorsement. Date availability, technical requirements, fees, and recording or image permissions are confirmed individually.