

405 **Powered PG fatality** 🇧🇷 **Jose Helio da Rocha, 61**

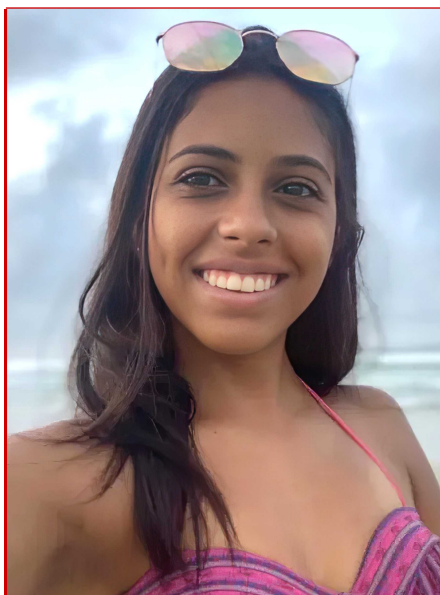
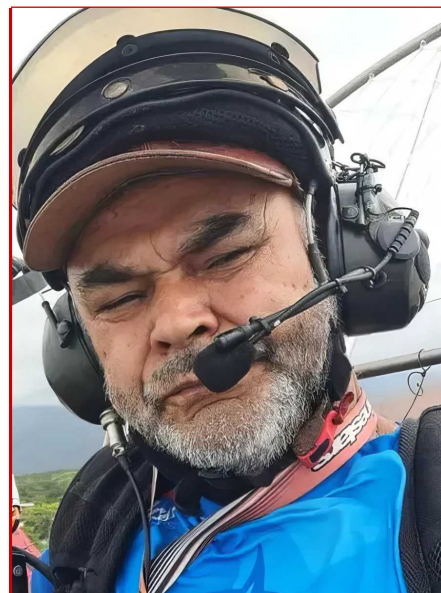
- **Powered PG serious injury** 🇧🇷 **Lorrana Fernanda Rodrigues Felipe, 23, of Americana**



December 25, 2022 Bertioga, Baixada Santista, Sao Paulo, **BRAZIL**



Collision with kite string. Joyrider Jose Helio da Rocha was selling rides on his tandem paramotor to tourists at Bertioga Beach. Pretty young Lorrana Fernanda Rodrigues Felipe, on a visit to the coast with her family, climbed aboard his trike and they went for a 5-minute flight. But as they descended on approach to the strip of beach where Jose hawked his rides, the paramotor, at 12 meters, struck an invisible kite string coated with ground quartz and aluminium oxide. This illegal mixture, used by children in kite fighting, is known as *Chilean*, and it cuts even more effectively than the more commonly used *cerol*, a wax and powdered glass-coated string. Held by a young teenage boy nearby, the string sliced through the paramotor's suspension lines like a hot knife through



butter and sent the two aboard tumbling to impact on the beach. Sexagenarian Jose was killed outright. Lorrana, younger and stronger, was pulled from the wreckage with a broken leg and a broken back. She was rushed to *Hospital de Bertioga* for urgent care and was held for transfer to a more capable hospital for delicate back surgery. Doctors would not say if she would ever walk again.

The tragedy is the most recent in a series of paramotor fatalities in Brazil caused by collisions with fighting kite lines, including the deaths of **Heury Vieira Galli** on May 21, 2020, **Marcelo Nunes Rodrigues** on June 21 of this year, and **Sandro Antonio Schons** last August 14.

🇧🇷 PHOTOS 1589 *A Tribuna*

1589 BRAZIL: Photos of Jose Helio da Rocha and Lorrana Fernanda Rodrigues Felipe by their respective families; "Queda de parapente que terminou em morte no litoral de SP teve como causa linha de pipa / **The paragliding crash that ended in death on the coast of SP was caused by a kite line,**" *A Tribuna*, 28 Dec 2022, <<https://www.atribuna.com.br/noticias/policia/queda-de-parapente-que-terminou-em-morte-no-litoral-de-sp-teve-como-causa-linha-de-pipa>>