# Recovery of superyacht Bayesian halted after diver’s death amid probe



Work to recover a luxury superyacht that sank off the coast of Sicily, resulting in the tragic deaths of a U.K. tech mogul and six others, has come to a standstill following the death of a diver involved in the operation. The incident, which occurred a year ago, has attracted renewed scrutiny as local authorities have launched an investigation into the diver's untimely demise.

The yacht, named “Bayesian,” was struck abruptly by severe weather resembling a mini-tornado last August while anchored off Porticello, near Palermo. The sudden storm caused the vessel to capsize almost instantly, leading to the loss of lives, including British tech entrepreneur Mike Lynch, his teenage daughter, and five other individuals. Among the deceased were notable figures such as Jonathan Bloomer, former chairman of Morgan Stanley International, and U.S. lawyer Chris Morvillo. Remarkably, fifteen individuals managed to escape the sinking yacht, including Lynch’s wife and a one-year-old child.

The diver, aged 39, was part of a specialised team engaged in efforts to raise the 185-foot vessel, currently lying on its side approximately 50 metres beneath the sea. The recovery operation had only commenced days earlier, and initial steps involved cutting and removing the yacht’s tall mast, a necessary procedure before lifting the entire structure from the seabed. Work ceased after the diver's death, prompting prosecutors to initiate an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the accident.

TMC Marine, the British company tasked with the recovery, stated it is fully cooperating with the inquiry. They confirmed that the situation was under investigation by the relevant authorities. Details regarding the diver’s death reportedly remain vague, contributing to the growing concern surrounding safety protocols in underwater recovery operations.

In tandem with these developments, inquests into the deaths of the British victims have been taking place in Ipswich, raising further questions about the safety measures around such maritime excursions. In Italy, prosecutors are examining potential negligence and have opened inquiries into four individuals, including the yacht's captain, on charges of manslaughter related to the vessel’s sinking.

Mike Lynch, whose life ended so abruptly, was a prominent figure in the tech industry, known for founding the software company Autonomy. Once revered as “Britain’s Bill Gates,” Lynch gained notoriety in the late 1990s for developing software that helped businesses sift through mountains of digital data. His eventual sale of the company to Hewlett-Packard for $11 billion in 2011 marked a high point in his career, although it was later overshadowed by allegations of accounting improprieties. Following a prolonged legal battle that concluded with his acquittal in June 2024, Lynch had recently gathered friends and family to celebrate his legal victory aboard the ill-fated yacht.

Beyond the individual tragedies, this incident underscores the broader concerns regarding safety on luxury vessels and the responsibilities of yacht operators. The maritime community is closely watching as investigators delve deeper into the circumstances of the sinking, juxtaposing the lure of opulent maritime experiences against the stark realities of oceanic dangers.

As recovery operations await official clearance to resume, the legacies of those lost and the intricate dynamics of maritime safety remain at the forefront of public consciousness, highlighting the need for rigorous standards in an industry where the stakes can be tragically high.

### Reference Map

1. Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
2. Paragraphs 3, 4, 5
3. Paragraphs 2, 6

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://sandhillsexpress.com/cbs_world/diver-dies-during-operation-to-recover-yacht-that-sank-killing-7-cbsidf4b54419/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data