

KATHRYN'S REPORT

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SATURDAY, JULY 4, 2015

Cessna 172P Skyhawk, Fox Flying Club Inc., N62681: Fatal accident occurred July 03, 2015 in Bartlett, Illinois

Any witnesses should email witness@ntsb.gov, and any friends and family who want to contact investigators about the accident should email assistance@ntsb.gov.

Date: 03-JUL-15

Time: 20:44:00Z

Regis#: N62681

Aircraft Make: CESSNA

Aircraft Model: 172

Event Type: Accident

Highest Injury: Fatal

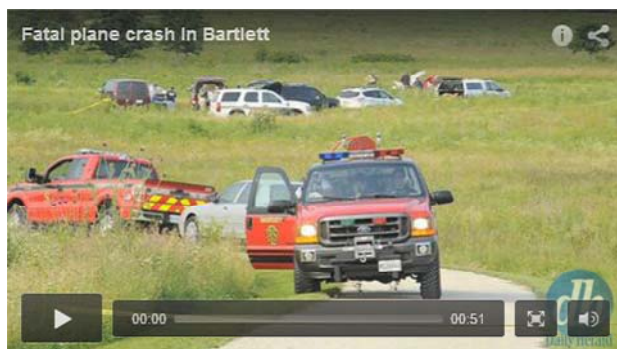
FAA Flight Standards District Office: FAA W. Chicago-DuPage (NON Part 121) FSDO-03

City: BARTLET

State: Illinois

AIRCRAFT CRASHED IN A FIELD, THE 1 PERSON ON BOARD WAS FATALLY INJURED, 4 MILES FROM DUPAGE, NEAR BARTLET, IL

FOX FLYING CLUB INC: <http://registry.faa.gov/N62681>



The pilot of a Cessna 172P Skyhawk aircraft died after the plane crashed about 3:45 p.m. Friday in a field in the Hawk Hollow Forest Preserve near Bartlett.

The pilot was a Bloomingdale man who came from Schaumburg Regional Airport and did a quick landing and takeoff at DuPage Airport a source said, and had radioed in with "engine issues."

National Transportation Safety Board spokesman Peter Knudson said the pilot had reported a "control" problem.

DuPage County Coroner Rich Jorgensen joined the NTSB and other investigators at the scene. The coroner did not release the name of the pilot pending notification of family members, DuPage County Forest Preserve spokeswoman Sue Olafson said.

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The FAA was told only one person was on board, spokesman Tony Molinaro said.

Olafson said the coroner and Federal Aviation Administration investigators were to return to the scene Saturday morning.

ABC 7 Chicago reported the plane was registered to the Fox Flying Club, a nonprofit based at the DuPage Airport. Aerial pictures of the crash site showed the small plane in many pieces in the field, with a narrow line of charred ground behind it.

Skip Barchfeld, president of the Northwest Flyers based at Schaumburg Regional Airport, said the pilot also did only a quick landing and takeoff at the Schaumburg airport.

"All I can tell you is that that airplane did land at the Schaumburg airport earlier today but did not stop.

It just landed, taxied back and took right back off again," Barchfeld said.

"That's very common. People go to practice takeoffs and landings all the time," Barchfeld said. "I was not there when the airplane actually landed and took off, but speaking to my line people and office people, they said it was nothing that appeared unusual. He just landed and taxied back and took off. On a nice day like today, a lot of pilots go out there to hone their skills on taking off and landing, going to different airports to get experience at different airports."

Residents of Brandon and Newcastle lanes, the neighborhood near where the plane went down, reported hearing a loud noise late Friday afternoon. Others did not hear the crash or mistook it for early fireworks.

"It was really close, and all of a sudden, it just went straight down," Amy Weber of Bartlett told ABC 7. "But we couldn't see where it hit."

Steve Colaizzi was outside weeding when he heard a big boom he attributed to pre-Independence Day fireworks but he now believes accompanied the crash.

"If (the pilot) put it down on purpose, he did a good job," said Colaizzi, whose neighborhood is about 100 yards from the crash site.

Colaizzi said he estimates there are 40 to 50 houses on the street that backs up to the crash site, where he said he observed fire department personnel, forest preserve district officers, and local, county and state police walking near the crash site searching for debris.

Other residents reported seeing part of the wreckage only after hearing that there was a crash. A piece of the wing and a red blanket were visible about two blocks from the crash site, said Laura Nowack, a Newcastle Lane resident who saw neither smoke nor fire coming from the wreckage.

Diane K. Arnold of Hanover Park said via social media that she lives only five minutes away from the crash site. "I didn't hear anything, just sirens," she wrote.

Source: <http://www.dailyherald.com>



A pilot was killed when his Cessna 172P Skyhawk plane crashed in a field in the DuPage County Forest Preserve near the western suburb of Bartlett on Friday afternoon, officials said.

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► June (114)

► May (81)

► April (236)

► March (291)

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The pilot had reported problems with the plane's rudder, which helps steer the plane, before the Cessna 172P Skyhawk crashed about 3:45 p.m. in the middle of the field near 1390 Newcastle Lane, the officials said.

No one else was aboard the plane and no nearby homes appeared to have been hit. DuPage County officials confirmed that there was one fatality.

The DuPage County coroner's office said the victim would not be publicly identified before Saturday and that next of kin had yet to be notified. Sue Olafson, spokeswoman for the DuPage County Forest Preserve District, said the impact was hard and that the coroner said there was no question that the man died on impact.

Peter Knudson, a spokesman for the National Transportation Safety Board, said the pilot reported the rudder control problem to air traffic controllers. He said NTSB investigators were heading to the scene.

Aerial footage showed the plane broke into at least two major pieces on impact.

The plane was registered to the Fox Flying Club, which is based at DuPage Airport. Officials of the club were not available for comment.

Kathleen Marmitt, who lives on Newcastle Lane near the site of the crash, said she didn't hear anything. She knew something had happened when she saw people running near her house and heard helicopters overhead.

Marmitt said she could see no damage to any houses near hers.

Mary Ellen Bjorkman, who lives adjacent to the forest preserve, said while she was not home when the crash occurred, one of her neighbors told her he heard what he thought was a car backfiring. They did not know a plane crashed until they saw the news helicopters, she said.

A Bartlett Fire Department staffer said fire department and emergency personnel were on the scene from Bartlett, South Elgin, DuPage County, the Illinois State Police, Hanover Park and Hanover Township Emergency Services. Several all-terrain vehicles were brought in by trailer.

According to one neighbor, the path being used by emergency personnel to access the scene is about 2.2 miles long. Officials said the crash was about 1 1/2 miles inside the preserve.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com>







Posted by Kathryn at 7/04/2015 11:02:00 AM

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