



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Dr. David Bowling
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Central Region

Conversation with: Jeff Engels, Pilot's Flight Instructor, and the Airplane's A&P Mechanic

NTSB Accident Number: CEN22FA145, Pond Creek, Oklahoma

Accident Date: March 17, 2022

I interviewed Mr. Engels on September 31, 2022, at 2:08 pm MDT.

Mr. Engels reported that the pilot, Mr. William Lauber was the youngest of the four boys in the family and the only pilot. Mr. Lauber was in the funeral home and seed businesses. The older brother managed the airplane and was the person Mr. Engels dealt with, with respect to maintaining the airplane. Mr. Engels confirmed there was an oxygen system on board the airplane and it had been serviced. However, when flying with Mr. Lauber, he could only recall one time where Mr. Lauber used supplemental oxygen, which was on a cross-country flight to Phoenix. I asked Mr. Engels if he knew if there were oxygen masks or cannulas on the airplane and if so, where would they usually be stored. He said that if there were masks or cannulas, they were not on the airplane.

Mr. Engels reported that he was Mr. William Lauber's flight instructor and instructed him through his airplane multiengine land rating. He said he tried to get Mr. Lauber to get his instrument rating, but between his businesses, Mr. Lauber was just too busy. Mr. Engels reported that after Mr. Lauber got his ratings, he didn't fly for quite a while. He said that the airplane sat for about four years. Then Mr. Lauber decided to get back into flying again. He started by getting current in single engine airplanes and then got back to the Twin Comanche.

Mr. Engels said that they had flown down to Texas to visit Mr. Lauber's daughter. On the local news, Mr. Lauber's oldest daughter stated that the following day was their granddaughter's first birthday and that they were returning to Nebraska to be here for that.

David Bowling