

The following is my recollection of my interactions with Mr. Wilkerson on July 5th and 6th, 2023:

I received a call from Daniel Melia at 6:45 p.m. on Wednesday, July 5th asking me to put an Aerostar plane into our communal hangar. When I arrived at the airport (about 15 or 20 minutes later), I saw the Aerostar at the fuel pumps. I saw Mr. Wilkerson fueling the plane, and I briefly talked to him. He mentioned that our fuel system wouldn't let him pump more than 90 gallons on one transaction, and so he was running his card again to pump more fuel. I then opened the main hangar door and rearranged the position of an air tractor to make room for his Aerostar, and then I tugged the Aerostar from the fuel pumps and put it in the hangar.

Once the Aerostar was in the hangar, I talked with him for a few minutes. He was very nice and friendly, and he thanked me multiple times. He said that he was traveling around the country visiting family. He said a lot of his family still lives in Oklahoma. I told him my name, and he said he has a brother with the same name.

He asked if I recommended any restaurant to have dinner, and a hotel recommendation. I told him he should try The Dish Room, and I recommended the Fairfield Inn. He then took an airport courtesy car and left. I left shortly after, and as I got into town, I believe I was driving behind him (I am not certain that it was him, but it appeared to be one of the cars from the airport parking lot). The car turned off the main road into the Dish Room parking lot.

The following morning, I saw him again, and I asked if he tried The Dish Room. He said that he went there, but there was a very long wait time and so he went elsewhere and ate a hamburger instead.

Some time later that morning, he told me that had almost left a few minutes earlier, but then the weather quickly got worse. He said something like "I saw that the weather had cleared up enough for me to leave, and so I got ready to go. But by the time I walked out to my airplane, the fog (or clouds) had moved back in! Just that fast!"

I don't remember any other conversations I had with him, but he was at the airport throughout the morning, and I saw him sitting and walking around at times, waiting for the weather to clear up so he could leave. He seemed slightly anxious, and I assume he was eager to leave.

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