



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Todd Gunther
Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region

Date: September 14, 2020
Person Contacted: Christina Luff (Family Member)
NTSB Accident Number: ERA20LA314

According to Ms. Luff, on September 10, 2020, Mr. McClain was going to fly from Calhoun, Georgia to Tupelo, Mississippi, and back to Calhoun.

This was a “test run” for a flight he planned to do on 09/14/2020 to Little Rock, Arkansas. He had never flown to Little Rock and told her that Tupelo’s distance from Calhoun would be a good test as it approximated half the distance to Little Rock.

A couple of weeks earlier he had a fuel leak and assured Ms. Luff that he had fixed it.

He kept the airplane in a hangar in Calhoun.

On the day of the accident, he texted Ms. Luff that he had found Tupelo, and was on his way back. She believed that he had texted her in the air and that he had not landed and gotten fuel in Tupelo as his plan was to refuel in Gadsden, Alabama on his way back to Calhoun.

When she did not hear that he was back in Calhoun, she called the airport and had them check his hangar. When they told her that he was not there, she told them to call the FAA.



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Todd Gunther
Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region

Date: September 16, 2020

Subject: Information Obtained from Gary McClain (Pilot's Brother)

NTSB Case Number: ERA20LA314

According to Mr. McClain, He had talked with his brother about the flight a couple of weeks prior. His brother was going to fly to Conway, Arkansas to visit him in the future but had never flown on a long trip so he was going to fly to Tupelo, Mississippi which was about halfway to Conway, as a "shakedown."

His brother figured if he could make it to Tupelo and back, he would be able to do the flight to Conway without a problem. He was close to Christine Luff and his brother had texted with Christine during the flight.

He planned that as he was getting to Tupelo, if he had more than 50% of his fuel capacity left, he would turn around and refuel in Gadsden, Alabama.

Mr. McClain added that, there were no problems with his brother's airplane that he knew of, and his brother was in good health.



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Todd Gunther
Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region

Date: September 24, 2020

Subject: Information Obtained from Dwight Albritton (Airport Manager – KCZL)
NTSB Case Number: ERA20LA314

According to Mr. Albritton, the pilot would use both Mogas (automobile gasoline), and 100LL aviation gasoline in the airplane.

He had purchased 21 gallons of 100LL on August 12, 2020, and on the day of the accident had had refueled the airplane out of three 5-gallon that had Mogas in them.

He previously had a fuel leak in the gas cap filler neck of one of the fuel tanks but had fixed it.