



NTSB MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

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Date: 6/19/2021
Person Contacted: DANA MURPHY (Friend of Accident Pilot)
NTSB Accident Number: ERA21FA257

Narrative:

Ms. Dana Murphy was contacted via telephone and reported the following details pertaining to the accident:

- She reported that she was speaking to the pilot via cell phone for the entire duration of the accident flight. The total call time was about 7 minutes, with brief intermittent disconnections.
- She reported that the accident pilot told her that he was using a Bluetooth device to speak to her while in the airplane. Their conversation began while the pilot was on the ground at Mount Olive Airport. She heard the pilot tell ground personnel to add "only 2 gallons" of fuel. She reported that the pilot informed her he had finished spraying for the day.
- She reported that the pilot informed her he was going to perform a "flyover at the drag strip" and then continue to his home airport in Dover, NC.
- She reported that she asked the pilot, "maybe I shouldn't be talking to you?" and he reportedly stated, "no I have a Bluetooth."
- She could hear the airplane takeoff from Mount Olive during the call. She recalled that about 3-4 minutes before the accident, the pilot stated "oh the button won't come on." She then asked, "That's not a bad thing is it?" She stated the pilot responded by stating "no I don't have to turn that on." She reported the pilot also at this time made a reference to "the light on the wing".
- When this brief back and forth occurred, she noticed that the engine noise increased and became "higher in pitch." She reported that the engine noise was constant until the call abruptly ended. She stated that the "background engine noise was prominent".



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- She reported that about 10 seconds prior to the end of the call, she reported the pilot stated, "I'm dead". She then stated to the pilot, "huh?" and the pilot repeated "I'm dead". Immediately following this second comment from the pilot she heard the sound of an impact and the call dropped. According to her call log, the exact time the call ended was 2022 local time.

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