

Aircraft mishap of N338RV on 9/3/2021

1 message

Lutz Glasbrenner

Sun, Sep 5, 2021 at 12:28 AM

To: [REDACTED]@faa.gov

On 9/3/2021 I prepared N388RV, an RV8, a Homebuild, for a flight from KLNA to KIMM for the purpose of refueling. The fuel price at KIMM is almost half of the price at KLNA. I informed myself of the weather condition before I left home as well at the airport. The condition was 2500 scattered clouds.

The flight was scheduled for 30 minutes with a fuel burn of 4-5 gallons. I had made the flight many times in the past.

I made a thoro preflight check, checked the oil, drained the fuel of each tank, and looked inside each tank, noting the fuel. I could not dipstick the level of the fuel since it is tailwheel aircraft and the fuel is in the lower part of the wing tank due to the incline of the wing. The fuel cap is on top of the wing, the highest part of the wing camber. I rocked the wing back- and forth and could see the fuel sloshing around. I estimated 9-10 gallons remaining in the left tank. The tank holds 21 gallons, each tank. I used the same procedure on the right-wing, but with less fuel visible.

I departed KLNA at about 11: 20 for KIMM.

As I proceeded westbound I noticed after a while rain cells were building in great intensity in my direction so I corrected my course to the southwest to avoid the increase that closed my path to KIMM so I decided to return to KLNA. With the circumnavigation, I was further from KLNA than I thought. On the way back the engine started to sputter, I turned on the electric fuel pump, switched tanks from left to right. After a while, the engine sputtered again so I prepared for an off-airport landing. Knowing that most highways have wires across I decided to use a horse racetrack as my landing zone. As I approached the track I set about 10 degrees of flaps to extend my glide since I experienced a significant sink rate. Unfortunately, the sink rate increased and I was unable to clear the railing of the track and destroyed the airplane.

I turned all switches off and exited the aircraft unhurt. I was the only occupant on board.

Lutz Glasbrenner



SEP 5. 2021

https://[REDACTED]