



RECORD OF INTERVIEW

Daniel P. Boggs
Air Safety Investigator
National Transportation Safety Board
Office of Aviation Safety - Eastern Region

Date: 6/9/2023 1400
Person Interviewed—Ron Parker-airport owner-witness
NTSB Case Number: ERA23FA260

Narrative:

Mr. Ron Parker was interviewed in person.

Ron stated that the pilot and his father flew into his runway about 6 times over the last couple years. Ron made a 1700x60 ft grass runway on his farm. He stated he also owns 2 RV airplanes, an RV-10 and a RV-8. He has about 4,500 hours in the RV airplanes and several thousand hours flying Navy jets. He also stated his runway is about .5 miles away from the accident site and his neighbor.

Ron stated that on the morning of the accident, Pete Gouldman, his neighbor, dropped off the pilot and his father around 0945. He spoke with the two for a few minutes before he left to work on one of his corn fields by his neighbors house. He stated that while he was driving down the road, he noticed the airplane circling his neighbors house so he stopped his truck to watch them. He noticed the airplane make a couple circles around the house and some up and down maneuvers. On the last circle around the house, at an altitude of 100 ft, he noticed the airplane in a knife-edge turn and a tight circle. He noticed the airplane was not going very fast and saw the nose of the airplane drop down about 20°, he knew he was in trouble when he saw the nose of the airplane then drop to 80° and impact the ground vertically next to the driveway. He drove over to assist but it was on fire at that point. Ron also said the engine was running the entire time and no issues noted.

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Date: 6/8/2023 1400
Person Interviewed—Pete Gouldman-witness
NTSB Case Number: ERA23FA260

Narrative:

Mr. Pete Gouldman was interviewed in person.

Pete stated he was a life long friend with the passenger of the airplane and his son. He stated the pilot and his father flew up to his house on June 6, 2023 about 1900 EDT, from Wilmington North Carolina. They landed at his neighbor's house about .5 mile away on a 1700 ft grass runway. They went night fishing that night and on the morning of the 7th, they all had breakfast together before he dropped them off at the airplane around 0945. The pilot told him they were going to go to Tappahannock airport to fill up with fuel before returning to Wilmington North Carolina. Pete then returned to his house and about 30 minutes later when he was standing in his driveway, he heard the airplane flying overhead. He watched the airplane as it made two circles around his house. On the 2nd circle, he noticed the airplane was "very steep" or "knife-edge" and in a tight circle. He said the airplane was only about 100 ft above the ground. He then noticed the nose of the airplane drop down and impact the ground beside his driveway almost vertically. He ran over to assist at that time.

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