

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

NTSB Form 6120.1

PILOT/OPERATOR AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORT

Email the pilot/operator aircraft accident/incident report to the investigator-in-charge of your accident/incident. If email is not available, mail the report per the instructions below.

If your accident/incident occurred in Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, or the US Virgin Islands, send the form to: NTSB, ERA, 45065 Riverside Parkway, Ashburn, VA 20147.

If your accident/incident occurred in Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Colorado, or New Mexico, send the form to: NTSB, CEN, 4760 Oakland Street, Suite 500, Denver, CO 80239.

If your accident/incident occurred in Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, Nevada, Washington, Oregon, California, Hawaii, or the territories of Guam or American Samoa, send the form to: NTSB, WPR, 505 South 336th Street, Suite 540, Federal Way, WA 98003.

If your accident/incident occurred in Alaska, send the form to: NTSB, ANC, 222 West 7th Avenue, Room 216, Box 11, Anchorage, AK 99513.

Rules pertaining to notification of aircraft accidents and incidents, as well as overdue aircraft are found in 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 830 http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?c=ecfr&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title49/49cfr830_main_02.tpl. These rules state the authority of the NTSB, define accidents, incidents, injuries, and other terms, and provide procedures for initial and immediate notification of accidents and incidents by aircraft pilots/operators.

A. APPLICABILITY

The pilot/operator of an aircraft shall send a report to the office listed above, based on accident/incident location; immediate notification is required by 49 CFR 830.5(a). **The report shall be filed within 10 days after an accident for which notification is required by Section 830.5, or after 7 days if an overdue aircraft is still missing.**

An aircraft accident, as defined in 49 CFR 830.2, is determined as an occurrence that involves a fatality or serious injury, or substantial damage to the aircraft. For occurrences that do not involve a fatality, the determination that the occurrence is an accident can be appealed by writing to the Director, Office of Aviation Safety, NTSB, 490 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20594.

INSTRUCTIONS TO PILOTS/OPERATORS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM

It is necessary that ALL questions on this report be answered completely and accurately.

If more space is needed, continue on a blank sheet of paper.

Nearest City/Place: Use the name of the nearest community in the state where the accident/incident occurred.

Date/Time: Indicate the date and local time of the event. Be sure to indicate the time zone.

Phase of Operation: Indicate the phase of operation during which the accident/incident occurred.

Aircraft Information: Enter aircraft make and model information as indicated on the aircraft registration certificate, including series. If the involved aircraft is certified as "amateur-built," include the name of the producer of the kit or plans, unless an NTSB employee instructs otherwise.

Maximum Gross Weight: Enter the certificated maximum gross weight for the aircraft involved in the occurrence. This should be the same as the maximum gross weight indicated on the aircraft weight and balance documents.

Engine: Enter engine make and model information as indicated on the engine data plate.

The NTSB uses this form for aircraft accident prevention activities and for statistical purposes. NTSB regulations (49 CFR Part 830) require that **ALL** questions be answered completely and accurately. Completion of this form will take approximately 60 minutes. The NTSB does not guarantee the privacy of any information provided in this form. You need not complete this form unless it displays a valid OMB control number, in accordance with 5 C.F.R. § 1320.5(b), which applies to this collection of information.

B. DEFINITIONS

1. "Aircraft Accident" means an occurrence associated with the operation of an aircraft that takes place between the time any person boards the aircraft with the intention of flight and all such persons have disembarked, and in which any person suffers death, or serious injury, or in which the aircraft receives substantial damage. For purposes of this form, the definition of "aircraft accident" includes "unmanned aircraft accident," as defined at 49 CFR 830.2.

2. "Substantial Damage" means damage or failure that adversely affects the structural strength, performance or flight characteristics of the aircraft, and that would normally require major repair or replacement of the affected component. NOTE: Engine failure or damage limited to an engine if only one engine fails or is damaged, bent fairing or cowling, dented skin, small puncture holes in the skin or fabric, ground damage to rotor or propeller blades, and damage to landing gear, wheels, tires, flaps, engine accessories, brakes, or wing tips are not considered "substantial damage" for purposes of this report.

3. "Operator" means any person who causes or authorizes the operation of an aircraft, such as the owner, lessee, or bailee of an aircraft.

4. "Fatal Injury" means any injury that results in death within thirty (30) days of the accident.

5. "Serious Injury" means any injury that (1) requires hospitalization for more than 48 hours, commencing within 7 days from the date the injury was received; (2) results in a fracture of any bone (except simple fracture of fingers, toes, or nose); (3) causes severe hemorrhages, nerve, muscle, or tendon damage; (4) involves injury to any internal organ; or (5) involves second- or third-degree burns, or any burns affecting more than 5 percent of the body surface.

Type of Fire Extinguishing System: If a fire extinguishing system was used to fight an aircraft fire, specify the type(s) of extinguishing system(s) used. Examples include handheld extinguisher, engine fire bottle, cargo/baggage compartment fire suppression system, or airport emergency ground equipment.

Owner/Operator Information: Enter the owner information as shown on the registration certificate. Commercial operators, enter the operator information, including "doing business as" when applicable, as shown on the operator certificate.

Revenue Sightseeing Flight: Indicate whether the accident aircraft was conducting revenue sightseeing operations under 14 CFR Part 91 at the time of the accident.

Air Medical Flight: Indicate whether the accident flight was being conducted for the purpose of carrying medical personnel, patient(s), or organs.

Public Aircraft: Federal, state or local government flight operations such as official travel, law-enforcement, low-level observation, aerial application, firefighting, search and rescue, biological or geological resource management, or aeronautical research. Indicate whether the flight was conducted by the armed forces, federal, state, or local government.

Purpose of Flight: 14 CFR Parts 91, 103, 133, 136, and 137: Indicate the type of operation that was being conducted at the time of the occurrence using the following definitions:

AERIAL APPLICATION--Operations using an aircraft to perform aerial application or dispersion of any substance. Examples include agricultural, health, forestry, cloud seeding, firefighting, insect control, etc.

AERIAL OBSERVATION--These flights include aerial mapping/photography, patrol, search and rescue, hunting, highway traffic advisory, ranching, surveillance, oil and mineral exploration, criminal pursuit, fish spotting, etc.

AIR DROP--Aerial operations, other than aerial application, that are intended to release items in flight.

AIR RACE/SHOW--Includes any flight operations conducted as part of an organized air race or public demonstration.

BUSINESS--includes all personal flying without a paid professional crew for reasons associated with furthering a business, including transportation to and from business meetings or work. This does not include corporate/executive operations, air taxi, or commuter operations.

EXECUTIVE/CORPORATE--Company flying with a paid, professional crew.

FERRY--Non-revenue flight under a special flight or "ferry" permit. Refer to 14 CFR 21.197 for details of special flight permit issuance.

FLIGHT TEST--Flight for the purpose of investigating the flight characteristics of an aircraft/aircraft component or evaluating an applicant for a pilot certificate or rating.

INSTRUCTIONAL--Flying while under the supervision of a flight instructor or receiving air carrier training. Personal proficiency flight operations and personal flight reviews, as required by federal air regulations, are excluded.

OTHER WORK USE--Miscellaneous flight operations conducted for compensation or hire such as construction work (not 14 CFR Part 135 operation), parachuting, aerial advertising, towing gliders, etc.

PERSONAL--Flying for personal reasons (excludes business transportation) including pleasure or personal transportation. This also includes practice or proficiency flights performed under flight instructor supervision and not part of an approved flight training program.

POSITIONING--Non-revenue flight conducted for the primary purpose of relocating the aircraft. Examples include moving the aircraft to a maintenance facility or to load passengers or cargo etc.

UNKNOWN--Use only if the primary purpose of flight is not known.

Other Aircraft--Collision: For all accidents involving a collision with another aircraft, including parked aircraft, check "Collision with other aircraft" under Basic Information and complete this section indicating details about the OTHER aircraft involved in the collision.

Airport Information: Complete this section if the accident/incident occurred on approach, landing, takeoff, departure, or within 3 statute miles of an airport. Please refer to the FAA Airport/Facility Directory or other official source for airport information.

Airport Identifier: Provide the official 3 or 4 character airport identifier number.

Runway: Indicate the number of the runway used, including L, R, or C if applicable.

Runway/Landing Surface: Indicate the type of intended runway/landing surface (do not indicate surface conditions). If the surface type was mixed, check all that apply.

Condition of Runway/Landing Surface: Indicate the condition of the intended runway/landing surface. If multiple conditions existed at the time of the accident, check all that apply.

Weather Information at the Accident/Incident Site: Indicate the weather conditions reported at the accident/incident site at the time of occurrence. If no weather reporting was available for the accident/incident site, indicate the reported conditions at the nearest reporting site. Specify the weather reporting site identifier, the observation time, and distance from the accident/incident.

Sky/Lowest Cloud Condition: Indicate the height above ground level of the lowest cloud condition present at the time of the accident/incident and whether coverage was reported as few, scattered, broken or overcast. Also indicate the height above ground level and coverage of the lowest cloud ceiling present at the time of the accident/incident (reported as broken or overcast).

NOTAMs (D and FDC), AIRMETs, SIGMETs, PIREPs: Describe all NOTAMs (distant (D) or Flight Data Center (FDC), if known), AIRMETs, SIGMETs, and PIREPs in effect near the accident/incident.

Flight Crewmember Information: Indicate the category that best describes the capacity served by this flight crewmember at the time of the accident. The designators "Flight Crewmember 1" and "Flight Crewmember 2" do not refer to a specific pilot position or responsibility. If more than one pilot is aboard, they may be entered in any order and their capacity entered as appropriate.

Degree of Injury: See Definitions on the top half of Page 1 of the instructions. Minor injury is not defined. If an injury does not meet the criteria for another injury category, select Minor.

Date of Last Flight Review or Equivalent: Enter the date of the most recent flight review, or equivalent, completed by this pilot. Refer to 14 CFR 61.56 for accepted equivalents.

Type Ratings: List all type ratings on the pilot certificate. If the pilot holds no type ratings indicate "none." If the pilot holds a pilot certificate other than student and was flying an aircraft requiring an endorsement, enter the type and date of any logbook endorsement(s) for that aircraft. See 14 CFR 61 for examples of required endorsements.

Student Endorsements: If the pilot holds a student pilot certificate, enter all solo endorsements and dates on the student pilot certificate.

Flight Time: Complete the flight time matrix. Solo flight time should be included as "Pilot-in-Command (PIC)" and all dual flight instruction given should be included as "Time as Instructor."

Additional Flight Crewmembers: Complete this section if there were more than two required flight crewmembers on the aircraft. This also includes a check airman performing official duties but does not include cabin crew. State the capacity served by each included crewmember at the time of the accident.

Passenger(s)/Other Personnel: Enter identification and injury severity information for all passengers, cabin crew, and other personnel involved in the accident. See Page 1 of the instructions for the official definition of injury levels.

Several questions throughout the form allow for multiple responses; when appropriate, choose all responses that apply.

These instructions only pertain to major issue areas covered by NTSB Form 6120.1 *Pilot/Operator Aircraft Accident/Incident Report*. For additional definitions of questions and responses, please refer to www.nts.gov.

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD PILOT/OPERATOR AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORT

This form to be used for reporting civil and public aircraft accidents and incidents

BASIC INFORMATION

Accident/Incident Location

Nearest City/Place: Springfield State: Tn

ZIP: 37172 Country: USA

Latitude: _____ Longitude: _____

(Enter in decimal degrees or degrees:minutes:seconds)

Accident/Incident Date/Time

Date: 04/22/2023 Local Time: 12:20
mm/dd/yyyy

Time Zone: Cental

Collision with Other Aircraft: ☐ Midair ☐ On-ground ☐ None

AIRCRAFT INFORMATION

Registration Number: N789LH

Manufacturer: Schweizer

Model: 269C

Serial Number: S1911

Year of Manufacture: 02/25/2008

Amateur-Built: ☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes: ☐ Kit/Plans ☐ Original Design Make: _____

☒ IFR-Equipped and Certified

☐ Commercial Space Flight

☐ Unmanned Aircraft

Maximum Gross Weight: _____ lbs

Weight at Time of Accident/Incident: _____ lbs

Number of Seats: 2 Flight Crew Seats: _____

Cabin Crew Seats: _____ Passenger Seats: _____

Number of Engines: 1

Category of Aircraft

- ☐ Airplane
- ☐ Balloon
- ☐ Blimp/Dirigible
- ☐ Glider
- ☐ Gyroplane
- ☒ Helicopter
- ☐ Powered Lift
- ☐ Rocket
- ☐ Ultralight
- ☐ Unknown

Type of Airworthiness Certificate

(Check all that apply)

Standard

- ☒ Normal
- ☐ Aerobatic
- ☐ Balloon
- ☐ Commuter
- ☐ Transport
- ☐ Utility

Special

- ☐ Restricted
- ☐ Limited
- ☐ Provisional
- ☐ Special Flight
- ☐ Experimental
- ☐ Special Light-Sport
- ☐ Experimental Light-Sport

☐ Certificate of Authorization or Waiver (COA)

☐ None

☐ Unknown

Landing Gear

(Check all that apply)

☐ Retractable

- ☐ Tricycle
- ☐ Amphibian
- ☐ Emergency Float
- ☐ Float
- ☐ Hull
- ☐ Other Launch/Recovery System
- ☐ None
- ☐ Tailwheel
- ☐ High Skid
- ☒ Skid
- ☐ Ski
- ☐ Ski/Wheel
- ☐ Unknown

Engine Type (Select one)

- ☒ Reciprocating
- ☐ Turbo Shaft
- ☐ Turbo Prop
- ☐ Turbo Jet
- ☐ Turbo Fan
- ☐ Electric
- ☐ Liquid Rocket
- ☐ Solid Rocket
- ☐ Hybrid Rocket
- ☐ None
- ☐ Unknown

Fuel System Type (Reciprocating)

- ☐ Carburetor
- ☐ Fuel-Injected

Engine	Engine Manufacturer	Engine Model/Series	Manufacturer's Serial Number	Date of Mfg. mm/dd/yyyy	Rated Power ☒ Horsepower or ☐ lbs of Thrust	Total Time (hours)	Time Since: Inspection (hours)	Overhaul (hours)
Eng. 1	Lycoming	HIO-360-D1A	L-30196-51A	07/17/2015	190	604.6	28.7	604.6
Eng. 2								
Eng. 3								
Eng. 4								

Last Inspection Type

- ☒ 100-Hour
- ☐ AAIP
- ☐ Annual
- ☐ Continuous Airworthiness
- ☐ Conditional Inspection
- ☐ Unknown

Date Last Inspection: 04/04/2023
mm/dd/yyyy

Airframe Total Time: 4162.8 hrs

hours measured at (Select one)

- ☒ Last Inspection
- ☐ Time of Accident/Incident

Type of Maintenance Program (Select one)

- ☒ Annual
- ☐ Conditional (Amateur-built only)
- ☐ Manufacturer's Inspection Program
- ☐ Other Approved Inspection Program (AAIP)
- ☐ Continuous Airworthiness
- ☐ Other, specify: _____

Description of Fire Extinguishing System

- ☒ None
- ☐ Specify: _____

Propeller 1

- ☐ Fixed Pitch
- ☐ Controllable Pitch
- ☐ Ground Adjustable

Manufacturer: _____

Model: _____

Propeller 2

- ☐ Fixed Pitch
- ☐ Controllable Pitch
- ☐ Ground Adjustable

Manufacturer: _____

Model: _____

ELT Installed: ☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes:

ELT Manufacturer: _____

Model or Part No.: _____

TSO No.: ☐ OC91 (121.5 MHz) ☐ OC91a (121.5 MHz)
☐ OC126 (406 MHz)

Was ELT still mounted in aircraft? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Was ELT still connected to antenna? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Did ELT Activate? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If activated:

Did ELT Aid in Locating Aircraft? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If not activated:

- Indicate Reason:
- ☐ Impact Damage
 - ☐ Fire Damage
 - ☐ Battery Expired/Damaged
 - ☐ Unknown

Additional Equipment (Check all that apply)

- ☐ ADS-B
- ☐ Airframe Parachute
- ☐ Angle of Attack Indicator
- ☐ Autopilot
- ☐ Data Recorder
- ☐ Electronic Flight Bag or Handheld Device
- ☐ Electronic Multifunction Display
- ☐ Electronic Primary Flight Display
- ☐ Handheld GPS
- ☐ Heads Up Display
- ☐ Onboard Weather
- ☐ Satellite Tracking Device
- ☐ Stall Warning System
- ☐ Video Recording Device
- ☐ Other, Specify: _____

OWNER/OPERATOR INFORMATION**Registered Aircraft Owner**Name: Jones Aircraft Company LLCFractional Ownership Aircraft: ☐ Yes ☒ NoCity: Cross PlainsState: TnZIP: 37049Country: USA**Operator of Aircraft**☐ Same As Registered Owner☐ Same Address as Registered Owner

Name: _____

City: _____

Doing Business As: _____

State: _____

ZIP: _____

Air Carrier/Operator Designator (4 Character Code): _____

Country: _____

Operating Certificates Held

(Check all that apply)

- ☐ None
☐ Flag Carrier Operating Certificate (FAR 121)
☐ Supplemental
☐ Air Cargo
☐ Foreign Air Carriers (FAR 129)
☐ Rotorcraft External Load (FAR 133)
☐ Commuter Air Carrier (FAR 135)
☐ On-Demand Air Taxi (FAR 135)
☐ Commercial Air Tour (FAR 136)
☐ Agricultural Aircraft (FAR 137)
☐ Pilot School (FAR 141)
☐ Certificate of Authorization or Waiver (COA)
☐ Commercial Space Transportation
Experimental Permit
☐ Commercial Space Transportation License
☐ Other Operator of Large Aircraft

Regulation Flight Conducted Under

- ☒ FAR 91 ☐ FAR 129 ☐ FAR 415
☐ FAR 103 ☐ FAR 133 ☐ FAR 431
☐ FAR 121 ☐ FAR 135 ☐ FAR 435
☐ FAR 125 ☐ FAR 137 ☐ FAR 437
- ☐ FAR 91 Special Flight
☐ Non-US, Commercial
☐ Non-US, Non-commercial
- ☐ Public Aircraft (Select one)
☐ Armed Forces
☐ Federal
☐ State
☐ Local
☐ Unknown

Revenue Operation for FAR 121, 125, 129, 135

(Select one for each group)

- ☐ Scheduled or Commuter ☐ Domestic
☐ Non-Scheduled or Air Taxi ☐ International
- ☐ Passenger
☐ Cargo
☐ Mail Contract Only

Purpose of Flight for FAR 91, 103, 133, 137

(Select one)

- ☐ Aerial Application ☐ Firefighting ☐ Unknown
☐ Aerial Observation ☐ Flight Test
☐ Air Drop ☐ Glider Tow
☐ Air Race/Show ☒ Instructional
☐ Banner Tow ☐ Other Work Use
☐ Business ☐ Personal
☐ Executive/Corporate ☐ Positioning
☐ External Load ☐ Skydiving
☐ Ferry

Revenue Sightseeing Flight☐ Yes ☒ No**Air Medical Flight**☐ Yes ☒ No**AIRPORT INFORMATION (Fill in if accident/incident occurred on approach, landing, takeoff, departure, or within 3 miles of an airport)**Airport Name: Springfield Robertson County AirportAirport Identifier: KM91Proximity to Airport: ☒ Off Airport/Airstrip ☐ On Airport/Airstrip ☐ N/ADistance From Airport Center: 5 smDirection From Airport: 220 degrees trueAirport Elevation: 706 ft. msl**Runway Information**Runway ID: 04/22 (L/R/C) Length: 5500 ft Width: 100 ft**Runway/Landing Surface (Check all that apply)**

- ☒ Asphalt ☐ Grass/Turf ☐ Macadam ☐ Water
☐ Concrete ☐ Gravel ☐ Metal/Wood
☐ Dirt ☐ Ice ☐ Snow ☐ Unknown

Condition of Runway/Landing Surface (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Dry ☐ Snow-Compacted ☐ Water-Calm
☐ Holes ☐ Snow-Crusted ☐ Water-Choppy
☐ Ice Covered ☐ Snow-Dry ☐ Water-Glassy
☐ Rough ☐ Snow-Wet ☐ Wet
☐ Rubber Deposits ☐ Soft
☐ Slush-Covered ☐ Vegetation ☐ Unknown

Approach/Departure Segment (Select one)

- ☐ Taxi ☐ VFR Departure ☐ On Instrument Approach ☐ Downwind ☐ Low Approach
☐ Takeoff ☐ IFR Departure Procedure/Clearance ☐ Landing ☐ Base ☐ Go Around
☐ Initial Climb ☐ Aborted Landing (after touchdown)
☐ Crosswind ☐ Unknown

IFR Approach (Check all that apply)

- ☐ None
- ☐ ADF/NDB ☐ PAR ☐ MLS ☐ Practice
☐ SDF ☐ Sidestep ☐ LDA ☐ GPS
☐ VOR/TVOR ☐ ILS ☐ ASR
☐ VOR/DME ☐ Localizer Only ☐ Visual
☐ TACAN ☐ LOC-back course ☐ Contact
☐ RNAV ☐ Circling
☐ Unknown

VFR Approach (Check all that apply)

- ☐ None
- ☐ Traffic Pattern ☐ Stop and Go
☐ Straight-In ☐ Touch and Go
☐ Valley/Terrain Following ☐ Simulated Forced Landing
☐ Go Around ☐ Forced Landing
☐ Full Stop ☐ Precautionary Landing
☐ Unknown

“Flight Crewmember 1” Responsibilities at the Time of Accident/Incident

"Flight Crewmember 1" was pilot flying ☐ Yes ☐ No

First Name: Robert

City of Residence: Nashville

Middle Initial: _____

State: Tn ZIP: 37208

Last Name: Larson

Country: USA

Age at time of Accident/Incident: 52 Date of Birth: *mm/dd/yyyy*

Certificate Number: [REDACTED]

Degree of Injury ☒ None ☐ Fatal ☐ Minor ☐ Unknown ☐ Serious	Seat Occupied ☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Unknown ☒ Right ☐ Rear ☐ Center ☐ Single	Restraint Type Available ☐ None ☐ Lap only ☐ 3-point ☒ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	Inflatable Restraints ☒ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown
Pilot Certificate(s) <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☐ None ☒ Flight Instructor ☒ Commercial ☐ US Military ☒ Private ☐ Recreational ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Foreign ☐ Student ☐ Sport ☐ Flight Engineer			

Principal Occupation	Medical Certificate	Medical Certificate Validity	Date of Last Medical
☒ Pilot ☐ Other ☐ Unknown	☐ None ☐ Class 3 ☐ Class 1 ☐ Driver's License (Sport Pilot only) ☒ Class 2 ☐ Unknown	☒ Without limitations/waivers ☐ Unknown ☐ With limitations/waivers ☐ N/A ☐ Special Issuance	<u>08/17/2023</u> <i>mm/dd/yyyy</i>

Medical Certificate Limitations

Medical Certificate Special Issuance

Date of Last Flight Review or Equivalent, Including FAR 121/135 Checks: _____ <i>mm/dd/yyyy</i>	Flight Review Aircraft Make: _____ Model: _____
---	--

Airplane Rating(s) <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☐ None ☐ Single-Engine Land ☐ Single-Engine Sea ☐ Multiengine Land ☐ Multiengine Sea	Other Aircraft Rating(s) <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☐ None ☐ Airship ☐ Balloon ☐ Glider ☐ Gyroplane ☒ Helicopter ☐ Powered Lift	Instrument Rating(s) <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☐ None ☐ Airplane ☒ Helicopter ☐ Powered Lift	Instructor Rating(s) <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☐ None ☐ Airplane Single-Engine ☐ Airplane Multi-Engine ☐ Gyroplane ☐ Powered Lift	☐ Instrument Airplane ☐ Instrument Helicopter ☒ Helicopter ☐ Glider ☐ Sport
---	---	---	---	---

Type Ratings	Student Endorsements <i>(Include dates)</i>
---------------------	--

[illegible]

“Flight Crewmember 2” Responsibilities at the Time of Accident/Incident

"Flight Crewmember 2" was pilot flying ☐ Yes ☐ No

First Name: Scott

City of Residence: Smyrna

Middle Initial: L

State: GA ZIP: 30082

Last Name: Goff

Country: USA

Age at time of Accident/Incident: 50 Date of Birth: *mm/dd/yyyy*

Certificate Number:

Degree of Injury ☒ None ☐ Fatal ☐ Minor ☐ Unknown ☐ Serious	Seat Occupied ☒ Left ☐ Front ☐ Unknown ☐ Right ☐ Rear ☐ Center ☐ Single	Restraint Type Available ☐ None ☐ Lap only ☐ 3-point ☒ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	Inflatable Restraints ☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown
Pilot Certificate(s) <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☒ None ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Commercial ☐ US Military ☐ Private ☐ Recreational ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Foreign ☐ Student ☐ Sport ☐ Flight Engineer			

Principal Occupation	Medical Certificate	Medical Certificate Validity	Date of Last Medical
☐ Pilot ☐ Other ☒ Unknown	☐ None ☐ Class 3 ☐ Class 1 ☐ Driver's License (Sport Pilot only) ☐ Class 2 ☒ Unknown	☐ Without limitations/waivers ☒ Unknown ☐ With limitations/waivers ☐ N/A ☐ Special Issuance	<i>mm/dd/yyyy</i>

Medical Certificate Special Issuance

Date of Last Flight Review or Equivalent, Including FAR 121/135 Checks: _____ <i>mm/dd/yyyy</i>	Flight Review Aircraft Make: _____ Model: _____
---	--

Airplane Rating(s) <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☒ None ☐ Single-Engine Land ☐ Single-Engine Sea ☐ Multiengine Land ☐ Multiengine Sea	Other Aircraft Rating(s) <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☒ None ☐ Airship ☐ Balloon ☐ Glider ☐ Gyroplane ☐ Helicopter ☐ Powered Lift	Instrument Rating(s) <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☒ None ☐ Airplane ☐ Helicopter ☐ Powered Lift	Instructor Rating(s) <i>(Check all that apply)</i> ☒ None ☐ Airplane Single-Engine ☐ Airplane Multi-Engine ☐ Gyroplane ☐ Powered Lift ☐ Instrument Airplane ☐ Instrument Helicopter ☐ Helicopter ☐ Glider ☐ Sport
--	---	---	--

Type Ratings	Student Endorsements <i>(Include dates)</i>

[illegible]

ADDITIONAL FLIGHT CREWMEMBERS (Exclusive of cabin crew, complete the following information)

Crew Name and Address	Seat Occupied	Injury
First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____	☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Center ☐ Rear ☐ Right ☐ Single ☐ Unknown	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Private ☐ Recreational ☐ Student ☐ Sport ☐ Commercial ☐ US Military ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Foreign ☐ Flight Engineer	Restraint Type: Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	Inflatable Restraints ☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown
Type Rating/Endorsement for Accident/Incident Aircraft? ☐ Yes ☐ No	Total Flight Time at the Time of this Accident/Incident: _____ hrs	

Crew Name and Address	Seat Occupied	Injury
First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____	☐ Left ☐ Front ☐ Center ☐ Rear ☐ Right ☐ Single ☐ Unknown	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Private ☐ Recreational ☐ Student ☐ Sport ☐ Commercial ☐ US Military ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Foreign ☐ Flight Engineer	Restraint Type: Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	Inflatable Restraints ☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown
Type Rating/Endorsement for Accident/Incident Aircraft? ☐ Yes ☐ No	Total Flight Time at the Time of this Accident/Incident: _____ hrs	

PASSENGER(S) / OTHER PERSONNEL (Include cabin crew; continue on separate sheet if necessary)

Name and Address	Seat	Injury	Restraint Type	Inflatable Restraints	Age
First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other	☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years If Under 5, ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown
First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other	☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years If Under 5, ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown
First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other	☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years If Under 5, ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown
First Name: _____ City : _____ Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Last Name: _____ Country: _____ ☐ Crew ☐ Passenger ☐ Other	☐ Left ☐ Center ☐ Right ☐ Unknown Row: _____	☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown	Available ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown Used ☐ None ☐ Lap Only ☐ 3-point ☐ 4-point ☐ 5-point ☐ Unknown	☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown	☐ Under 5 years If Under 5, ☐ Child Restraint ☐ Lap-Held ☐ Unknown

FLIGHT ITINERARY INFORMATION

Last Departure Point Airport ID: <u>KM91</u> City: <u>Springfield</u> State: <u>TN</u> Country: <u>USA</u>	Time of Departure Time: <u>10:30</u> Time Zone: <u>Central</u>	Destination Airport ID: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Country: _____	Type Flight Plan Filed ☒ None ☐ VFR/IFR ☐ Company VFR ☐ IFR ☐ Military VFR ☐ Unknown ☐ VFR Activated? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown
---	---	--	--

Type of ATC Clearance/Service (Check all that apply)

☒ None	☐ Special VFR	☐ Special IFR	☐ VFR Flight Following	☐ Cruise
☐ VFR	☐ IFR	☐ VFR On Top	☐ Traffic Advisory	☐ Unknown / NA

Airspace where the accident/incident occurred (Check all that apply)

☐ Class A ☐ Class B ☐ Class C ☐ Class D ☐ Class E	☒ Class G ☐ Demo Area ☐ Warning Area ☐ Prohibited Area ☐ Restricted Area	☐ Military Operations Area (MOA) ☐ Airport Advisory Area ☐ Jet Training Area ☐ TRSA ☐ FAR 93	☐ Special ☐ Air Traffic Control Area ☐ Unknown	Altitude of In-Flight Occurrence: _____ ft msl
--	--	---	---	--

WEATHER INFORMATION AT THE ACCIDENT/INCIDENT SITE

Source of Pilot Weather Information

(Check all that apply)

☐ National Weather Service ☐ Flight Service Station ☐ TV/Radio ☐ Automated Report ☐ Commercial Weather Service (DUATS) ☐ On-Board Weather	☐ Company ☐ Military ☐ Internet ☐ None ☒ Unknown
--	--

Weather Observation Facility

Facility ID: _____
 Observation Time: _____
 Time Zone: _____
 Distance from Accident Site: _____ nm
 Direction from Accident Site: _____ degrees true

Basic Conditions

☐ VMC
☐ IMC
☒ Unknown

Light Condition

☐ Dawn ☐ Dusk ☐ Dark Night ☒ Unknown
☐ Day ☐ Night ☐ Bright Night

Sky/Lowest Cloud Condition

☐ Clear ☐ Thin Broken
☐ Few ☐ Thin Overcast
☐ Partial Obscuration ☒ Unknown
☐ Scattered

Lowest Cloud Condition Height

_____ ft agl

Ceiling

☐ None (Clear) ☐ Obscured
☐ Broken ☐ Indefinite
☐ Overcast ☒ Unknown

Ceiling Height

_____ ft agl

Temperature: _____ (C) or _____ (F)

Dew Point: _____ (C) or _____ (F)

Altimeter Setting: _____ in. Hg
or _____ MB

Wind Direction

☐ Variable

-or-
Direction: _____ degrees true

Wind Speed

☐ Calm
☐ Light and Variable

-or-
Speed: _____ kts

Wind Gusts

☐ Not Gusting

-or-
Speed: _____ kts

Visibility

_____ miles

RVR: _____ feet

RVV: _____ miles

Density Altitude: _____ ft

Intensity of Precipitation

☐ Light
☐ Moderate
☐ Heavy
☐ N/A
☐ Unknown

Type of Precipitation (Check all that apply)

☐ None	☐ Drizzle	☐ Freezing Rain
☐ Rain	☐ Ice Pellets	☐ Snow Shower
☐ Snow	☐ Snow Pellets	☐ Ice Pellets Shower
☐ Hail	☐ Snow Grains	☐ Freezing Drizzle
☐ Rain Showers	☐ Ice Crystals	

Restriction to Visibility (Check all that apply)

☐ None	☐ Fog
☐ Blowing Dust	☐ Ground Fog
☐ Blowing Sand	☐ Haze
☐ Blowing Snow	☐ Ice Fog
☐ Blowing Spray	☐ Smoke
☐ Dust	☐ Unknown

Icing Forecast

Amount	Type
☐ None	☐ N/A
☐ Trace	☐ Rime
☐ Light	☐ Clear
☐ Moderate	☐ Mixed
☐ Severe	☐ Unknown
☐ Unknown	

Icing Actual

Amount	Type
☐ None	☐ N/A
☐ Trace	☐ Rime
☐ Light	☐ Clear
☐ Moderate	☐ Mixed
☐ Severe	☐ Unknown
☐ Unknown	

Turbulence

Type (Check all that apply)	Severity
☐ None	☐ Light
☐ Clear Air	☐ Moderate
☐ Terrain-Induced	☐ Severe
☐ Convective Turbulence	☐ Extreme

NOTAMs (D and FDC), AIRMETs, SIGMETs, PIREPs in effect at the time of the accident/incident:

DAMAGE TO AIRCRAFT AND OTHER PROPERTY**Aircraft Damage**

- ☐ None ☒ Substantial
☐ Minor ☐ Destroyed
 ☐ Unknown

Aircraft Fire

- ☒ None ☐ Both Ground and In-Flight
☐ In-Flight ☐ Fire at Unknown Time
☐ On-Ground ☐ Unknown

Aircraft Explosion

- ☒ None ☐ Both Ground and In-Flight
☐ In-Flight ☐ Explosion at Unknown Time
☐ On-Ground ☐ Unknown

Description of Damage to Aircraft and Other Property *(Use additional sheet if necessary)*

NARRATIVE HISTORY OF FLIGHT *(Please type or print in ink)*

Describe what occurred in chronological order, including circumstances leading to and nature of accident/incident. Describe terrain and include wreckage distribution sketch if pertinent. Attach extra sheets if needed. State departure time and location, services obtained, and intended destination. Provide as much detail as possible.

RECOMMENDATION (How could this accident/incident have been prevented?)

Operator/Owner Safety Recommendation

MECHANICAL MALFUNCTION/FAILURE (If more space is needed, continue on separate sheet)

Was there Mechanical Malfunction/Failure? ☐ Yes ☐ No
(If yes, list the name of the part, manufacturer, part no., serial no., and describe the failure.)

**Total Time/Cycles
On Part**

_____ Hours

_____ Cycles

**Time Since This Part
Inspected/Overhauled**

_____ Hours

FUEL & SERVICES INFORMATION

Fuel on Board at Last Takeoff
(Convert from pounds, as necessary)

_____ Gallons

Fuel Type☐ 80/87☐ 115/145☐ Jet B☐ Other, specify _____☐ 100 Low Lead☐ Jet A☐ JP8☐ 100/130☐ Jet A-1☐ Automotive**Other Services, if Any, Prior to Departure****EVACUATION OF AIRCRAFT**

Was an emergency evacuation of the aircraft performed? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Method of Exit – Describe how the occupants exited and how many occupants evacuated each location

OTHER AIRCRAFT – COLLISION (If air or ground collision occurred, complete this section for other aircraft)**Aircraft Registration Number**

Manufacturer: _____**Model:** _____**Damage to Other Aircraft**☐ Destroyed☐ Minor☐ Substantial☐ None**Registered Owner of Other Aircraft**

Name: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Country: _____

Pilot of Other Aircraft

Name: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Country: _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Please type or print in ink)

Use this space if additional space is needed for any answers.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS COMPLETE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE

Date of this Report

05/22/2023

mm/dd/yyyy

Name of Pilot/Operator: _____

Signature: _____

-- or -- ☐ Check here to electronically sign this document

If a Person Other than Pilot/Operator is Filing Report

Name: THOMAS JONES FOR JONES AIRCRAFT COMPANY LLC

Title: MANAGING MEMBER

Signature: _____

-- or -- ☒ Check here to electronically sign this document

FOR NTSB USE ONLY

NTSB Accident/Incident No.

ERA23 LA205

Reviewed by NTSB Regional Office

OAS-ERA

Name of Investigator

Monville

Date Report Received

5/22/2023

Incident involving N789LH on 04/22/23

I'm going to break this flight down into 3 phases: Phase 1 includes briefing, preflight, and all flight with normal conditions. Phase 2 is the time where normal flight is still achievable with the onset of symptoms. Phase 3 begins when the emergency is recognized, emergency procedures are initiated, and ends when the aircraft is on the ground, shut down.

BLUF: I believe that we had a very slow engine roll-back where we were losing horsepower a little at a time, making it difficult to recognize a change in engine noise. I do not believe the needles ever split. The engine was still running to some degree with blades turning slowly once we were on the ground requiring an emergency shutdown.

Phase 1

I met Scott (my second student of the day), discussed his flight background, goals of the training, and environmental conditions. Scott had approximately 15 hours of Robinson time and wanted to get some Schweizer time to compare the two aircraft prior to deciding as to which he was going to continue in. Scott had previously flown 0.8 in a Schweizer with another of our CFIs, however he was unavailable, so I was filling in. This was my second flight of the day in N789LH. After the first flight my first student and I completed a post flight. Prior to my flight with Scott, I completed a detailed walk around (normal walk around with additional attention to the engine compartment as well as the rotor system) while he got seated in the aircraft. The engine started without difficulty. On startup I recall that both magnetos dropped approximately 100 rpm (125 rpm is the max allowable drop within 5 seconds, no more than 50rpm drop differential) and the engine responded appropriately to the flight idle check with a good split, needles rejoining, and stabilizing between 1200-1600 RPM. Our hover power was 22" of manifold pressure during the hover power/before takeoff check.

We initiated the period with 15-20 minutes of hover work then departed via RWY 22 for right traffic. We completed 2 traffic patterns. On the third pattern I chose to depart to the west to work on straight and level flight with altitude & speed changes, improving his scan, and throttle RPM management. We maintained altitudes between 1200' and 1700' MSL (500'-1000' AGL). After about 15 minutes I decided to take him to the confined area east of the field. We turned SE to circumvent south of M91. Throughout the flight, I was constantly reminding Scott to adjust throttle to maintain ENG/RRPM, however I felt that he had started to develop a better scan and demonstrated some ability to properly react to high and low RPM during phase 1. His ability/inability to keep up with throttle input to maintain RPM was normal for his hour level in a Schweizer. Of note the appropriate RPM for this aircraft is 3000-3200 RPM. I strive to maintain 3100 RPM.

Phase 2

It is difficult to precisely determine when this phase started, so I've decided to pick this portion because this is when I first started noticing my student's increasing difficulty with the throttle. Throughout the flight, when the low rotor horn sounded or if I noticed high RPM, if Scott didn't make an immediate and appropriate correction, I would state "Rotor RPM" and allow him a short time to make the correction, and if the correction still wasn't made, I would make the correction and announce my actions. This is a normal training method I use to get the student thinking about RPM and throttle manipulation during power changes. I always try to instill the fact that rotor RPM is life.

We were transitioning west to east approximately 3 NM south of M91 – Springfield Robertson County Airport at 1200'-1400' MSL (500'-700' AGL), with Scott on the controls. I noted that the RPM was low and heard the horn and announced, "Rotor RPM", Scott made a correction, but almost immediately had low RRPM, again I announced, and Scott again made a correction. On the third time in a short span (possibly 15-30 seconds between each event), I announced low rotor RPM but Scott didn't appear to make a correction. At this point I attempted to increase RPM via throttle manipulation. I noticed that the throttle was fully engaged, and we still had low RPM at around 2950. I noted that I could regain RPM to about 3050 if I pushed against the limiting spring in the throttle. I announced, "I have the controls" and took the controls.

This is the moment that I started evaluating/analyzing our situation to determine if we were entering an emergency. I was perplexed because this didn't make sense to me, I'd never trained this scenario. I had an instructor that once said to me "you know, most likely if you have an engine failure it will be slow not sudden" some years back but that did not come to mind until after I was on the ground. I started to wonder if I was twisting the throttle the wrong way, so I made a slight reduction in throttle, noted the drop in RPM, and immediately increased throttle all the way to the stop regaining approximately 3050 RPM. I never remember seeing a split in Engine and Rotor RPM throughout the entire event.

Phase 3

At this point, I still didn't know what was happening, but knew that something wasn't right, so I told Scott that I had decided to make a precautionary landing. I turned the aircraft towards the nearest field and started a normal approach. The last reported winds I had heard from AWOS were variable at 5kts. I would estimate that at the initiation of the approach we were at approximately 200'-300' AGL. As we started the descent, I heard the low RRPM alarm sound. We were in a normal descent with the throttle fully engaged against the spring and our RPM continued to decay and was now around 2900. I decided to autorotate. We were at approximately 40kts and 100'-200' AGL. I announced to Scott "Were going to auto," simultaneously lowering the collective with throttle fully engaged, and nosed the aircraft over to an accelerative attitude to gain some airspeed. In my mind's eye I knew where I was on the height/velocity diagram and knew I needed airspeed ASAP. Upon entering the autorotation, I

never again looked inside but rather remained focused outside. I announced, "Mayday Mayday Mayday, 789, autorotation, south of the field" (or at least that's what I think I said) on CTAF. At approximately 40-50' I started a slight deceleration though we were in a near vertical descent leveling the aircraft at approximately 10'-20' AGL, and as we rapidly approached the ground, I applied collective to cushion the landing.

Upon contact with the ground, the aircraft was brought to an immediate and sudden stop due to the hard landing and the soft dirt stopping what little forward airspeed we still had, throwing us forward against the seatbelts hard enough that our headsets, hats, and sunglasses flew off our heads. Due to the hard landing the rotors dipped and contacted the tail boom damaging both. I performed an emergency engine shutdown, confirmed that we were safe (i.e. not on fire, blades had stopped, and not in danger of rolling etc..), and then confirmed that Scott was ok. We exited the aircraft and started making phone calls to the airfield for assistance.

Robert Larson

CFI/CFII [REDACTED] Exp 12/23

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Memorandum For Record

Timothy W. Monville
Sr. Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region

Date: 6/7/2023
NTSB Accident Number: ERA23LA205

On April 25, 2023, at 0805 EDT student pilot Scott L. Goff e-mailed Federal Aviation Administration inspector Joseph Kachinski the following statement:

“The Incident involving 789LH, April 22, 2023

I have approximately 14 hours in a R22. I traveled north from Atlanta to Springfield just to try a different bird (couldn't find a Schweizer in Georgia, at all). The weekend before, I went up in the same aircraft, no problems.

The pre-flight went without hesitation as Bob (Larson) had just flown it minutes before. He let me get in as he did a quick walk-around before we began.

The R22 has a governor on the throttle, which takes over at ~80% RPM and allows the pilot to concentrate on other things (basically easing the pilot's burden, if you will). The Schweizer 269 does NOT have that feature. That will come in to play in a moment. We were between three and five miles south of the Springfield-Robertson County airport (M91), practicing basic maneuvers (holding a heading, altitude, turns), just Bob showing me the aircraft's capabilities and pointing out the differences in the two.

The communication that we discussed (as I'm sure most instructors do) is saying “I have the controls,” “you have the controls,” so someone always has the aircraft and there are no errors from that perspective.

Just before the incident, I seemed to be having trouble maintaining altitude. I assumed it was my not being used to controlling the throttle, since the governor system on the R22 does it for me. At this point, I could not say if the throttle was operating correctly as I probably wasn't using it correctly (if at all).

The last maneuver Bob asked me to do was straight and level and maintain 1200 ft. When he saw I had lost 200 ft. shortly after saying that, he said "OK, let's set 1000 ft as the altitude we want, concentrate on the controls and we'll watch the RPMs (as the 269 likes that ~2900-3100 RPM setting), and he (I assumed) was going to watch even more attentively to ascertain what I was doing wrong. I still had the controls at this point.

I am not sure how quickly we reached 600 ft., but that's when he said "I have the controls." A light illuminated (upper left on the instrument panel, the LOW ROTOR RPM light), and he said something like "we gotta land." Only when I heard him say on the radio "MAYDAY, MAYDAY" did I realize we had a problem. I did not notice the needles split, but at that point, I'm sure they were. I heard the engine running the entire time, never a cough or sputter nor any out-of-the-ordinary sounds.

Our "final approach" (if you will) was pretty steep, but Bob only had 600 ft. to prepare. We hit pretty hard, headsets and sunglasses flying off our heads, but the seatbelts did their job.

I credit Bob to saving my life, as helicopter crashes are notorious for serious injuries and death. We both walked away from this one, unscathed."