

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: Georgetown/Brown County Airport (KGEK) State: Ohio

ZIP: 45121 Country: United States of America

Latitude: N38.52.92' Longitude: W83.52.96'

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

Accident/Incident Date/Time

Date: 05/02/2024 Local Time: ~19:30

mm/dd/yyyy

Time Zone: Eastern

Collision with Other Aircraft: Midair On-ground ☒ None

AIRCRAFT INFORMATION

Registration Number: N8290C

Manufacturer: Piper

Model: PA20-135

Serial Number: 20-1119

Year of Manufacture: 1954

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

☐ IFR-Equipped and Certified

☐ Commercial Space Flight

☐ Unmanned Aircraft

Maximum Gross Weight: 1950 lbs

Weight at Time of Accident/Incident: 1520 lbs

Number of Seats: 4 Flight Crew Seats: 1

Cabin Crew Seats: 0 Passenger Seats: 3

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

Engine Type (Select one)

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

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	<u>Lycoming</u>	<u>O-290-D2</u>	<u>5014-21</u>		<u>135</u>	<u>2892</u>	<u>6.0</u>	<u>1364</u>
Eng. 2								
Eng. 3								
Eng. 4								

Last Inspection Type

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

Date Last Inspection: 11/10/2023
mm/dd/yyyy

Airframe Total Time: 2892 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: Portable fire extinguisher in cabin

Propeller 1

- ☒ Fixed Pitch
☐ Controllable Pitch
☐ Ground Adjustable

Manufacturer: Sensenich

Model: M74DM-0-57

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: ADSB OUT installed on airplane, ADSB in via portable receiver

OWNER/OPERATOR INFORMATION**Registered Aircraft Owner**Name: William Stephen BrightwellCity: CincinnatiState: OhioZIP: 45245Fractional Ownership Aircraft: Yes ☐ No ☒Country: United States of America**Operator of Aircraft**☐ Same As Registered Owner☐ Same Address as Registered OwnerName: William David BrightwellCity: New Richmond

Doing Business As: _____

State: OhioZIP: 45157

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

Country: United States of America**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 FlightYes ☐ 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: Brown County

Distance From Airport Center: _____ sm

Airport Identifier: KGEO

Direction From Airport: _____ degrees true

Proximity to Airport: Off Airport/Airstrip ☐ On Airport/Airstrip ☒ N/AAirport Elevation: 958 ft. msl**Runway Information**Runway ID: 36/18 (L/R/C) Length: 3500 ft Width: 65 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 | | | Final | 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 2" INFORMATION

"Flight Crewmember 2" Responsibilities at the Time of Accident/Incident

☐ Pilot
 ☐ Co-Pilot
 ☐ Student Pilot
 ☐ Flight Instructor
 ☐ Check Pilot
 ☐ Flight Engineer
 ☐ Other Flight Crew

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

"Flight Crewmember 2" Identification

First Name: _____ City of Residence: _____
 Middle Initial: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
 Last Name: _____ Country: _____
 Age at time of Accident/Incident: _____ 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 <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Available</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Used</th> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ None</td> <td>☐ None</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Lap only</td> <td>☐ Lap only</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ 3-point</td> <td>☐ 3-point</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ 4-point</td> <td>☐ 4-point</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ 5-point</td> <td>☐ 5-point</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Unknown</td> <td>☐ Unknown</td> </tr> </table>	Available	Used	☐ None	☐ None	☐ Lap only	☐ Lap only	☐ 3-point	☐ 3-point	☐ 4-point	☐ 4-point	☐ 5-point	☐ 5-point	☐ Unknown	☐ Unknown	Inflatable Restraints ☐ Not Installed ☐ Installed ☐ Not Deployed ☐ Deployed ☐ Unknown				
Available	Used																				
☐ None	☐ None																				
☐ Lap only	☐ Lap only																				
☐ 3-point	☐ 3-point																				
☐ 4-point	☐ 4-point																				
☐ 5-point	☐ 5-point																				
☐ Unknown	☐ Unknown																				
Pilot Certificate(s) <i>(Check all that apply)</i> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>☐ None</td> <td>☐ Flight Instructor</td> <td>☐ Commercial</td> <td>☐ US Military</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Private</td> <td>☐ Recreational</td> <td>☐ Airline Transport</td> <td>☐ Foreign</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Student</td> <td>☐ Sport</td> <td>☐ Flight Engineer</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		☐ None	☐ Flight Instructor	☐ Commercial	☐ US Military	☐ Private	☐ Recreational	☐ Airline Transport	☐ Foreign	☐ Student	☐ Sport	☐ Flight Engineer		Medical Certificate <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>☐ None</td> <td>☐ Class 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Class 1</td> <td>☐ Driver's License (Sport Pilot only)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Class 2</td> <td>☐ Unknown</td> </tr> </table>		☐ None	☐ Class 3	☐ Class 1	☐ Driver's License (Sport Pilot only)	☐ Class 2	☐ Unknown
☐ None	☐ Flight Instructor	☐ Commercial	☐ US Military																		
☐ Private	☐ Recreational	☐ Airline Transport	☐ Foreign																		
☐ Student	☐ Sport	☐ Flight Engineer																			
☐ None	☐ Class 3																				
☐ Class 1	☐ Driver's License (Sport Pilot only)																				
☐ Class 2	☐ Unknown																				
Principal Occupation ☐ Pilot ☐ Other ☐ Unknown		Medical Certificate Validity <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>☐ Without limitations/waivers</td> <td>☐ Unknown</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ With limitations/waivers</td> <td>☐ N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ Special Issuance</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		☐ Without limitations/waivers	☐ Unknown	☐ With limitations/waivers	☐ N/A	☐ Special Issuance													
☐ Without limitations/waivers	☐ Unknown																				
☐ With limitations/waivers	☐ N/A																				
☐ Special Issuance																					
Date of Last Flight Review or Equivalent, Including FAR 121/135 Checks: _____ mm/dd/yyyy		Flight Review Aircraft Make: _____ Model: _____																			

Medical Certificate Limitations

Medical Certificate Special Issuance

Date of Last Flight Review or Equivalent, Including FAR 121/135 Checks: _____ mm/dd/yyyy

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> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td> ☐ None ☐ Airplane Single-Engine ☐ Airplane Multi-Engine ☐ Gyroplane ☐ Powered Lift </td> <td> ☐ Instrument Airplane ☐ Instrument Helicopter ☐ Helicopter ☐ Glider ☐ Sport </td> </tr> </table>	☐ None ☐ Airplane Single-Engine ☐ Airplane Multi-Engine ☐ Gyroplane ☐ Powered Lift	☐ Instrument Airplane ☐ Instrument Helicopter ☐ Helicopter ☐ Glider ☐ Sport
☐ None ☐ Airplane Single-Engine ☐ Airplane Multi-Engine ☐ Gyroplane ☐ Powered Lift	☐ Instrument Airplane ☐ Instrument Helicopter ☐ Helicopter ☐ Glider ☐ Sport				

Type Ratings

Student Endorsements *(Include dates)*

Flight Time <i>(Enter appropriate number of hours in each box)</i>	All Aircraft	This Make & Model	Airplane Single Engine	Airplane Multiengine	Night	Instrument		Rotorcraft	Glider	Lighter Than Air
						Actual	Simulated			
Total Time										
Pilot in Command (PIC)										
Time as Instructor										
This Make/Model										
Last 90 Days										
Last 30 Days										
Last 24 Hours										

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 ☐ Unknown		☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown			
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Commercial ☐ US Military ☐ Private ☐ Recreational ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Foreign ☐ Student ☐ Sport ☐ 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 ☐ Unknown		☐ None ☐ Minor ☐ Serious ☐ Fatal ☐ Unknown			
Pilot Certificate(s) (Check all that apply) ☐ None ☐ Flight Instructor ☐ Commercial ☐ US Military ☐ Private ☐ Recreational ☐ Airline Transport ☐ Foreign ☐ Student ☐ Sport ☐ 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: <u>Margaux</u> City : <u>New Richmond</u> Middle Initial: <u>M</u> State: <u>Ohio</u> ZIP: <u>45157</u> Last Name: <u>Brightwell</u> Country: <u>United States</u> 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>KTZR</u> City: <u>Columbus</u> State: <u>Ohio</u> Country: <u>United States of America</u>	Time of Departure Time: <u>18:40</u> Time Zone: <u>Eastern</u>	Destination Airport ID: <u>KGEO</u> City: <u>Georgetown</u> State: <u>Ohio</u> Country: <u>United States of America</u>	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: 169
 Observation Time: _____
 Time Zone: _____
 Distance from Accident Site: 20 nm
 Direction from Accident Site: 315 degrees true

Basic Conditions

☒ VMC
☐ IMC
☐ Unknown

Light Condition

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

Sky/Lowest Cloud Condition

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

Lowest Cloud Condition Height

Unknown ft agl

Ceiling

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

No damage to property other than Piper PA20-135 N8290C.
Prop strike (at idle) into soft dirt/clay- Engine stopped
One prop blade bent (towards rear of aircraft)
Cowling cracked and buckled
Carburetor and oil cooler scoops torn/cracked
Engine mount bent
Firewall began to buckle, steel tube structure between firewall and cabin likely bent
Left landing gear- snapped from fuselage, steel tubing broke, bolted joints still intact

**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.

- The purpose of this flight was the return leg of a dinner flight to Bolton Field (KTZR) in Columbus, Ohio with my six year old daughter
- The flight home was excellent, very smooth air. Aircraft performed flawlessly
- Approximately 5-10 nautical miles to the NNE of GEO, I made an announcement on CTAF advising my location, altitude and intent
- A military helicopter then announced over CTAF that he was ~10nm to the east of GEO, stated his altitude and that he was inbound as well
- The helicopter did appear on my iPad via ADSB-IN
- I gained visual on the helicopter, and that was the only time I saw him. It was painted flat OD green making it very difficult to see and only had on it's red beacon(s).
- I notified CTAF that I had the helo in sight, he confirmed that he saw me as well
- Due to the difficulty associated with seeing him, the haze, and the sun starting to set, I turned on my wing tip strobes and wing-mounted taxi light. The red beacon on the belly of the aircraft was already on
- Shortly after the helicopter crew and I confirmed we had visual on each other, a Cessna 172 from Clermont County Airport (I69) announced that he was X miles northwest of GEO, inbound as well
- I never saw the Cessna, but I was monitoring his position on my iPad via ADSB-IN
- AWOS at I69 reported winds that favored RWY 18 at GEO
- The helicopter announced that he had entered a left downwind for RWY 18 at GEO
- I entered an extended left downwind for RWY 18, announced my position, my intentions and that I would be #2 to land for RWY 18
- I normally don't fly that long (or wide) of a pattern, but given how difficult it was to see the helicopter, I didn't know what type it was, how fast he was going or how bad his wake turbulence would be, I thought it would be wise to maintain a good distance between us
- After my radio call stating that I was on a left downwind for RWY 18, the Cessna announced that he too was entering a left downwind for RWY 18 at GEO
- At this point, I was preparing my airplane and my daughter for landing. Eyes outside of the cockpit, not staring at my iPad/ADSB data
- The helicopter announced that he was turning into a left base for RWY18
- I could not see the helicopter at all as I was passing the mid-field point in my downwind leg, and at this phase of the flight with two other aircraft in the vicinity, I did not want to find his location staring at ADSB data
- Wanting to make sure that there was adequate separation, I announced where I was on CTAF and asked the helicopter where he was. I made the comment that I wanted to verify their position and not cut them off or run them over
- The helicopter crew replied with something along the lines of "Oh, it sounded like it was getting pretty hectic so we decided to circle around and come in on RWY36"
- After all three aircraft agreeing to land on RWY18, for some reason they decided to land towards two incoming light aircraft
- If the helicopter crew stated what they did and/or where they went after announcing their switch to RWY36, I did not hear it as I was concentrated on configuring my airplane for landing, flying my pattern and making sure my daughter was ready for landing
- I make the usual announcements over CTAF for "left base, RWY 18. Turning final for rwy 18"
- Once on final, my head is on a swivel looking for the helicopter since I did not hear them state what they did or where they went after coming in on RWY36. I did not see the helicopter
- I did not see the helicopter sitting on the ramp until I was committed to my landing. A dark helicopter, idling on a dark colored surface with the sun low on the horizon was very difficult to see
- After I spotted the helicopter sitting on the FBO ramp, I completed a normal 2-point landing in my airplane. The tail came down and I had positive control with all three wheels on the ground
- I rolled past the idling helicopter with my airplane firmly on all three wheels



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

Operator/Owner Safety Recommendation

Military flight crews need to be trained on how to safely interact/operate around light General Aviation aircraft, especially at a non-towered airport. For example, at GEO, there are ultralights and light antique aircraft. Had an ultralight ventured into the helicopter's rotorwash, the pilot could have been killed. The military will routinely operate into GEO late at night (especially in the summer) with no lights on and radio silence to practice operations using night vision devices. While not common, people do come and go from GEO at night. Military aircraft are painted intentionally in a manner that makes them hard to see. In a situation like we had at GEO on 02 May, they should have done what I did and turn on multiple lights so those of us in the pattern could easily see him. On the civilian side, I think pilots need to be made more aware of the dangers associated with rotorwash. A lot of time is spent talking about wake vortices and how to avoid them, but not much on operations around helicopters.

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.)

N/A

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)

28 Gallons

Fuel Type

80/87

115/145

Jet B

☒ Other, specify Ethanol free automotive

100 Low Lead

Jet A

JP8

100/130

Jet A-1

Automotive

Other Services, if Any, Prior to Departure

N/A

EVACUATION OF AIRCRAFTWas an emergency evacuation of the aircraft performed? ☐ Yes ☒ No

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

After the aircraft fell backwards from its nose into a normal stance, I simply opened the cabin door (the PA20 series aircraft only has one door for the front seat occupants on the passenger/right hand side), released my daughter's seat belt, held the door open, she climbed out and jumped down to the ground on her own. I then undid my seatbelt and followed her out through the same door.

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.

The helicopter involved with this incident was an Eurocopter (Airbus) UH-72A Lakota. Tail number 72274. ADSB data obtained from a screenshot of the FlightRadar24 app shortly after the helicopter departed GEO listed a registration number of 13-72274 and showed 01172274 as its identifier. 01172274 is very similar to what I saw on my ADSB system in the airplane prior to the accident.

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

Date of this Report

0513/2024

mm/dd/yyyy

Name of Pilot/Operator: William David Brightwell

Signature: _____

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

If a Person Other than Pilot/Operator is Filing Report

Name: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____

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

FOR NTSB USE ONLY

NTSB Accident/Incident No.

ERA24LA212

Reviewed by NTSB Regional Office

ERA

Name of Investigator

Kurt Gibson

Date Report Received

05/13/2024

The purpose of this flight was the return leg of a dinner flight to Bolton Field (KTZR) in Columbus, Ohio with my six year old daughter

- The flight home was excellent, very smooth air. Aircraft performed flawlessly
- Approximately 5-10 nautical miles to the NNE of GEO, I made an announcement on CTAF advising my location, altitude and intent
- A military helicopter then announced over CTAF that he was ~10nm to the east of GEO, stated his altitude and that he was inbound as well
- The helicopter did appear on my iPad via ADSB-IN
- I gained visual on the helicopter, and that was the only time I saw him. It was painted flat OD green making it very difficult to see and only had on it's red beacon(s).
- I notified CTAF that I had the helo in sight, he confirmed that he saw me as well
- Due to the difficulty associated with seeing him, the haze, and the sun starting to set, I turned on my wing tip strobes and wing-mounted taxi light. The red beacon on the belly of the aircraft was already on
- Shortly after the helicopter crew and I confirmed we had visual on each other, a Cessna 172 from Clermont County Airport (I69) announced that he was X miles northwest of GEO, inbound as well
- I never saw the Cessna, but I was monitoring his position on my iPad via ADSB-IN
- AWOS at I69 reported winds that favored RWY 18 at GEO
- The helicopter announced that he had entered a left downwind for RWY 18 at GEO
- I entered an extended left downwind for RWY 18, announced my position, my intentions and that I would be #2 to land for RWY 18
- I normally don't fly that long (or wide) of a pattern, but given how difficult it was to see the helicopter, I didn't know what type it was, how fast he was going or how bad his wake turbulence would be, I thought it would be wise to maintain a good distance between us
- After my radio call stating that I was on a left downwind for RWY 18, the Cessna announced that he too was entering a left downwind for RWY 18 at GEO
- At this point, I was preparing my airplane and my daughter for landing. Eyes outside of the cockpit, not staring at my iPad/ADSB data
- The helicopter announced that he was turning into a left base for RWY 18
- I could not see the helicopter at all as I was passing the mid-field point in my downwind leg, and at this phase of the flight with two other aircraft in the vicinity, I did not want to find his location staring at ADSB data

- Wanting to make sure that there was adequate separation, I announced where I was on CTAF and asked the helicopter where he was. I made the comment that I wanted to verify their position and not cut them off or run them over
- The helicopter crew replied with something along the lines of “Oh, it sounded like it was getting pretty hectic so we decided to circle around and come in on RWY36”
- After all three aircraft agreeing to land on RWY18, for some reason they decided to land towards two incoming light aircraft
- If the helicopter crew stated what they did and/or where they went after announcing their switch to RWY36, I did not hear it as I was concentrated on configuring my airplane for landing, flying my pattern and making sure my daughter was ready for landing
- I make the usual announcements over CTAF for “left base, RWY 18. Turning final for rwy 18”
- Once on final, my head is on a swivel looking for the helicopter since I did not hear them state what they did or where they went after coming in on RWY36. I did not see the helicopter
- I did not see the helicopter sitting on the ramp until I was committed to my landing. A dark helicopter, idling on a dark colored surface with the sun low on the horizon was very difficult to see
- After I spotted the helicopter sitting on the FBO ramp, I completed a normal 2-point landing in my airplane. The tail came down and I had positive control with all three wheels on the ground
- I rolled past the idling helicopter with my airplane firmly on all three wheels
- Just after passing the projected centerline of the helicopter, my airplane, for the lack of a better term began to “levitate” from its three-point stance
- I felt the airplane lift straight off the ground in its tail down/nose up attitude. As it “levitated”, it began to turn, or weathervane towards the west (right side of runway)
- During this turn, the right wing began to lift
- I applied full right aileron and full left rudder (that also caused full left deflection of the tailwheel as well) to no effect. I believe I was going too slow to have any kind of aerodynamic control
- As a last resort, I applied left brake in an attempt to get the aircraft back on centerline
- We careened off of the west side of the runway while dragging the left wing tip and tip of the left elevator on the runway
- We experienced a rapid deceleration once we entered the grass and soft dirt/clay
- As the aircraft came to a stop, we tipped up on to the nose and balanced there for what seemed like an eternity. When the aircraft went on it’s nose, the propeller struck the mud and stopped the engine

- As we went on the nose, my daughter was thrown forward and bumped her head on either the yoke or glare shield (We both had on seatbelts. Just lap belts, aircraft does not have shoulder harnesses)
- I reached over and slammed her back into her seat with my right fore-arm and held her there, fully anticipating that we would flip over and come to rest upside down
- Thankfully, the tail started to drop and we slammed back down onto the ground in an upright position
- I immediately turned my attention to my now crying and screaming daughter. Once I verified she was ok, I turned off the magnetos, radios, battery and fuel
- I threw open the front cabin door, undid both of our seatbelts and we were able to exit the aircraft normally
- Several people who live at the airport witnessed the crash and immediately came to check on my daughter and I
- The helicopter remained in its spot idling, with the flight crew all staring at us from inside
- Eventually the Crew Chief exited the helo and asked me if we were ok. He quickly went back to the helicopter and got back inside (this is when I noticed that it was an Airbus UH-72 Lakota helicopter)
- They shut down the helicopter, and everyone onboard hopped out. They removed their helmets, dug out their cell phones and started taking pictures of the crashed Piper and everyone standing around it. They walked out onto the runway and photographed the tire skid mark and marks left by the left wingtip and elevator dragging the runway
- After taking their pictures, they climbed in the helicopter, started up and flew away
- I called my father to notify him of the crash (it is his airplane) and to ask what I should do next. He suggested I call Martha Lunken (retired FAA, a long time friend of his) for advice
- We agreed that calling the NTSB was the best bet. After speaking with the NTSB and two different FAA personnel, I began documenting the scene to the best of my abilities with my iPhone as the sun was going down
- With the permission of the NTSB and FAA, we moved the wreckage from where it came to a rest to a secure hangar. We moved it because of forecasted rain and its proximity to the runway
- I was told after the crash that the helicopter flew in to RWY36, then did a low hover down the runway, turned off on the taxiway that parallels the runway, and executed a hover taxi all the way to its parking spot