



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Inspector's Accident Statement for N84065

On 04/02/2025 I travelled to KMTV Blue Ridge Martinsville airport to inspect N84065 due to an accident. The aircraft had substantial damage to the landing gear, the nose section and forward cockpit. The report I received stated that the engine had stopped on climb out and the pilot had attempted to return to the airport and landing short of the runway in a field. The carburetor had been torn off and badly damaged. The gascolator was broken off and all the fuel had leaked out. The other engine components were intact such as the magnetos, plugs and leads.

I spoke with the pilot, Mr. Deppmeyer, on 4/03/2025 and he indicated that he was almost positive that while attempting to retrieve a dropped handheld radio he had accidentally hit the fuel selector turning it far enough to stop the fuel flow causing the engine stoppage. Due to no electrical system and insufficient altitude the engine could not be restarted.

Aviation Safety Inspector RIC FSDO EA-21 Shawn T. Cole 04/08/2025