

Huhn Michael

From: Jay Randall [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 12:06 PM
To: Huhn Michael; [REDACTED]
Subject: My observation of the accident at Sierra Skypark on Dec 26 2016

My background: USAF Instructor Pilot. American Airlines Pilot. Roughly 500 hours of "small plane" flying.

My Location: I observed this accident from the corner of Spruce and Herdon.

My Observation: I noticed the aircraft become airborne very early in its take off roll. I pointed the aircraft out to my son, who was sitting in the back seat of our car.

I then stopped watching him and focused on the traffic light. My son continued watching him.

A few seconds after he lifted off my son said "Dad, look at what he's doing"

I looked in my side view mirror of my car and noticed that he was now about half way down the runway, 40-50 feet above the ground, and he was pulling his nose up thru about 30 degrees, and still pulling.

He eventually reached about a 60 degrees nose up attitude and 200-250 feet above the ground, when he ran out of airspeed.

His nose then went forward, parallel to the horizon, and he flew forward, at the same altitude, for about a second. The aircraft then began a sharp roll to the right, not in a snap roll type of way, just a very quick, straight ahead, roll to the right. Like a P factor type roll.

As he did so, his nose began to drop as he rolled to the right and was accelerating.

By the time he had rolled a complete 360 to the right, he was leveling at about 20 -30 feet above the ground, but his roll never stopped and as his nose came back up he went from tracking straight ahead to a 90 degree turn to the right at a very high G rate.

Because of the speed he had picked up during his first roll, his roll rate was accelerating and he was pulling a lot more g's as he was rolling.

I lost sight of him as he was rolling thru about 110 degrees, turning sharply to the right, and 30 feet above the ground.

I thought for sure he was going to hit one of the houses on the bluff. But there was no smoke.

We then drove over to the end of Doolittle street and ran to the crash sight.

As I got close to the aircraft I could tell there was not going to be any survivors.

In summary, to me, it looked like the aircraft "departed controlled flight" and they were just along for the ride.

Why, is the big question.

Seat track failure? Flight control failure? I don't know. But they did not appear to me to be in control of the aircraft at all.

Hope this helps.

Jay Randall

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Jay Randall.