

Accident—N54873

On 12/14/17, I went to the airport to fly the 172. Bob Pina and his dog Louie came along. I took off between 9:30am and 10:00am. We flew south over Comanche (Bob was looking for suitable emergency landing sites). After a while we flew over Hogan Reservoir still heading south. Bob spotted a small private airport that he had flown into before and he knew the Owner and wanted to land there. It had a very short runway and a pile of gravel on the side of the runway (approach end). I told Bob he could fly the airplane and I would hold Louie. We made one pass to the North and Bob decided to turn right downwind to land. Based on the Westover AWOS the wind was light from 090 degrees. Bob came over the fence at about 65 knots and we touched down (and bounced) about 1/3 of the way down the runway—I thought Bob was going to go-around. He retracted the flaps when we touched down and then we agreed we needed to go around. He added power but it was too late. We lost the ground effect (and lift) at the end of the runway and descended into the trees. The airplane turned 180 degrees to the left and landed backwards and upside down. The cockpit structure was intact as were the seats. Bob got out and I turned off the master after I found it and then got out, with considerable difficulty. Fortunately there was no fuel leakage. I could not walk due to a dislocated hip. After about an hour no one came and we had no cell service. I managed to gather up some carpeting and blankets from the airplane, my flight bag, Bob's cell and Bob's car keys. In the meantime Bob decided to crawl towards the airport (although he had broken ribs a broken wrist and a broken knee). After about an hour someone found Bob and finally a savior by the name of Joel walked around what was left of the tail of the airplane and said an ambulance was coming. Willie, the owner of the airport and, I believe, his wife showed up. Willie said the airport was closed and they were growing pot on part of runway (legal in Calaveras County). The ambulance crew showed up and I was transported to the ambulance and to a waiting Helicopter. I went to Modesto Memorial and Bob went to the Modesto Doctors Hospital. I had a broken left clavicle broken vertebrae in my neck, bruised ribs and various cuts and bruises. The ER folk put my hip back in place and I got to my hospital room about 10:00 pm.