

Joshua Cawthra
Senior Aviation Accident Investigator
AS-WPR

Date: November 14, 2023, and November 21, 2023

Subject: WPR24LA034

Contact: William Krick - Pilot

During an initial telephone conversation with Mr. Krick on November 14, 2023, he stated that he had departed Coeur d'Alene Airport - Pappy Boyington Field (COE), Hayden, Idaho, and had climbed to about 4,500 ft msl, when he noticed that the left engine manifold pressure was at 21" and the right engine was over 23". He attempted to figure out what went on with the left engine, however, it wasn't responsive. Mr. Krick said that he "didn't mess with it for too long" before he turned around and headed to COE, as he couldn't "back the engine off."

Mr. Krick said that he setup for approach and landing on runway 2, and had tried to figure out how to shut the engine off once he landed, as he assumed it was a broken cable, or something. Mr. Krick further stated that something wasn't right as he was about 1,000 ft from the runway, and thinks the engine may have lost power, or went to idle. He said that he attempted to keep the airplane upright, however, it turned left extremely fast and impacted the ground. He recalled that the stall warning went off almost immediately when the "engine quit." Mr. Krick felt that there was something wrong with the left engine controls or the engine.

During a subsequent telephone conversation with Mr. Krick on November 21, 2023, he reported that the day of the accident, ceilings were about 6,000 ft overcast, and that he leveled off at 4,500 ft, and though he had a throttle cable break, as the left engine would only go to 21" of manifold pressure but would not go down. Mr. Krick said that he was able to "get flaps in, gear down, but it [the airplane] was struggling." He said that he was not sure if something broke, or the engine had quit, however, the airplane "took a left hand turn at the fence and it was over." He added that when he pushed propellers forward for landing, both [engines] were "running hard." He was not sure if it rattled something loose or not.