



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Factual Report

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<b>Location:</b>	WILLIS, VA	<b>Accident Number:</b>	BFO94LA001
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	11/01/1993, 0849 EST	<b>Registration:</b>	N94440
<b>Aircraft:</b>	UNIVAIR ERCOUCPE 415E	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None

**Flight Conducted Under:** Part 91: General Aviation - Personal

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On November 1, 1993, about 0849 hours eastern standard time, a Univair Erco Coupe 415E, N94440 collided with objects at the termination of a forced landing. The forced landing was precipitated by a loss of engine power during cruise flight. The certificated private pilot was not injured and the airplane sustained substantial damage. The personal flight, being operated by the pilot/owner, originated in Blacksburg, Virginia and was destined for Apalachicola, Florida. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed and a flight plan was not filed.

An FAA safety inspector examined the airplane on scene and interviewed the pilot. The pilot said that when he reduced power, the throttle cable assembly became loose. He said that he could not regain power and that the power remained at idle. An examination conducted by the FAA safety inspector revealed a throttle cable assembly fitting separated from its housing which would not allow the pilot to manipulate the throttle.

In his written report, the pilot added that because of mountainous terrain, he was unable to reach suitable terrain to complete the forced landing.

## Pilot Information

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<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	67, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine Land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	Seatbelt
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 2 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	08/13/1992
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>		<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	1332 hours (Total, all aircraft), 79 hours (Total, this make and model), 1332 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 30 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 15 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	UNIVAIR	Registration:	N94440
Model/Series:	ERCOUPE 415E ERCOUPE 41	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	5012
Landing Gear Type:	Tricycle	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1400 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	C-85-12
Registered Owner:	LEONARD ROMANIK	Rated Power:	85 hp
Operator:	LEONARD ROMANIK	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	0 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0000	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 5000 ft agl	Visibility	15 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Unknown / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	20 knots / 25 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	5°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	2° C / -5° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	BLACKSBURG, VA (BCB)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	APPALACHICOLA, FL (AAF)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0830 EST	Type of Airspace:	Class G

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):** RICHARD V CHILDRESS

**Additional Participating Persons:** GENE ROBERTS; RICHMOND, VA

**Investigation Docket:** NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at [pubinq@ntsb.gov](mailto:pubinq@ntsb.gov), or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/>.