



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

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<b>Location:</b>	ROGERS, AR	<b>Accident Number:</b>	FTW92LA102
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	04/02/1992, 1715 CST	<b>Registration:</b>	N94BS
<b>Aircraft:</b>	R. W. SWITZER RV-4	<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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## Analysis

THE PILOT HAD FLOWN FIVE HOURS OF CROSS COUNTRY FLIGHT OVER UNFAMILIAR TERRAIN IN A NON-HEATED COCKPIT. FOLLOWING THE LAST DEPARTURE THE PILOT ALTERNATED THE FUEL SELECTOR BETWEEN THE TANKS. AT THE TIME OF ENGINE POWER LOSS THE SELECTOR WAS ON THE RIGHT TANK AND THE PILOT DID NOT SELECT THE LEFT FUEL TANK DURING THE EMERGENCY PROCEDURE. DURING THE FORCED LANDING THE AIRPLANE IMPACTED TREES AND SUBSEQUENTLY DESCENDED UNCONTROLLED TO THE GROUND. THE PILOT REPORTED THAT THE RIGHT TANK RAN DRY.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: LOSS OF ENGINE DUE TO FUEL STARVATION AND UNSUITABLE TERRAIN. FACTORS WERE THE PILOT'S FAILURE TO FOLLOW PUBLISHED PROCEDURES.

## Findings

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Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - NORMAL

### Findings

1. (C) FLUID,FUEL - STARVATION
2. (C) FUEL TANK SELECTOR POSITION - NOT CORRECTED - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. DIVERTED ATTENTION - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (F) CHECKLIST - NOT FOLLOWED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

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Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

### Findings

5. (C) TERRAIN CONDITION - NONE SUITABLE
6. OBJECT - TREE(S)

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Occurrence #4: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	32, Female
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine Land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Front
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
<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 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	01/08/1992
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>		<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	420 hours (Total, all aircraft), 195 hours (Total, this make and model), 326 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 41 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 23 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	R. W. SWITZER	<b>Registration:</b>	N94BS
<b>Model/Series:</b>	RV-4 RV-4	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	Yes
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Experimental	<b>Serial Number:</b>	2
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	2
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	03/22/1992, Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	1500 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	12 Hours	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	112 Hours	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	LYCOMING
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-320-A2B
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	DAWN Y. RINALDI	<b>Rated Power:</b>	150 hp
<b>Operator:</b>	DAWN Y. RINALDI	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	FYV, 1251 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	22 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1858 CST	Direction from Accident Site:	360°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 14000 ft agl	Visibility	15 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	300°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	7° C / -4° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	OAKLEY, KS (OEL)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1430 CST	Type of Airspace:	Class E

## 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):	JOYCE M SMITH	Report Date:	07/23/1993
Additional Participating Persons:	R. W RAEBIGER; LITTLE ROCK, AR		
Publish Date:			
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 <a href="mailto:pubinquiry@ntsb.gov">pubinquiry@ntsb.gov</a> , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/</a> .		

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