



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	SCHAUMBURG, IL	<b>Accident Number:</b>	CHI88LA229
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	09/01/1988, 2200 CDT	<b>Registration:</b>	N28774
<b>Aircraft:</b>	GRUMMAN AA-5B	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

DURING AN ATTEMPTED NIGHT LANDING AT AN AIRPORT WITH INOPERATIVE PILOT-CONTROLLED RUNWAY LIGHTS, THE PILOT MADE A SERIES OF LOW PASSES (APPROXIMATELY 6 PASSES) BEFORE TRYING TO LAND. THE AIRCRAFT COLLIDED WITH THE TOP OF A TREE LOCATED SLIGHTLY TO THE LEFT OF THE EXTENDED RUNWAY CENTERLINE. THE AIRCRAFT ENTERED AN UNCONTROLLED DESCENT INTO BRUSHY TERRAIN. THE INOPERATIVE RUNWAY LIGHTS WERE PROPERLY NOTAMED AND THE PILOT HAD RECEIVED A PREFLIGHT BRIEFING.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

## Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT  
Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - FINAL APPROACH

### Findings

1. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - NIGHT
2. (F) OBJECT - TREE(S)
3. (C) CLEARANCE - MISJUDGED - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (F) IN-FLIGHT PLANNING/DECISION - POOR - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (F) AIRPORT FACILITIES, RUNWAY EDGE LIGHTS - NOT OPERATING

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Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	53, 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, Shoulder harness
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane	<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--w/ waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	06/29/1987
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>		<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	1134 hours (Total, all aircraft), 912 hours (Total, this make and model), 1011 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 67 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 49 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	GRUMMAN	<b>Registration:</b>	N28774
<b>Model/Series:</b>	AA-5B AA-5B	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	No
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	AA5B-0727
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	4
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	07/15/1988, Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2400 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	34 Hours	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	1543 Hours	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	LYCOMING
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, not activated	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-360-A4K
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	KEEGAN, RICHARD J	<b>Rated Power:</b>	180 hp
<b>Operator:</b>	KEEGAN, RICHARD J.	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Night/Dark
Observation Facility, Elevation:	DPA, 758 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	8 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	2150 CDT	Direction from Accident Site:	245°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 25000 ft agl	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	4 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	140°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	16° C / 12° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	MILWAUKEE, WI (MKE)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	SCHAUMBURG, IL (06C)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	2045 CDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

## Airport Information

Airport:	SCHAUMBURG (06C)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	795 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	28	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3000 ft / 40 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Straight-in

## 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):	JODI L REEVES	Report Date:	12/03/1989
Additional Participating Persons:	D CARAVELLA; CHICAGO, IL		
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:pubinq@ntsb.gov">pubinq@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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The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).