



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	LAKE PLACID, NY	Accident Number:	NYC89FA097
Date & Time:	03/01/1989, 1256 EST	Registration:	N1729Q
Aircraft:	BEECH 95-A55	Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Business		

Analysis

PILOT DEPARTED SARANAC LAKE IN INTERMITTENT SNOW SQUALLS AND BLIZZARD CONDITIONS. ABOUT 10 MINUTES LATER THE PILOT CONTACTED LAKE PLACID UNICOM AND SAID HE WOULD BE LANDING IN ABOUT 5 MINUTES. 2 MINUTES LATER THE UNICOM OPERATOR HEARD THE AIRCRAFT FLY OVERHEAD AT A LOW ALTITUDE, AND THE AIRCRAFT APPEARED TO BE FLYING DOWNWIND FOR RWY 32. THE WRECKAGE WAS FOUND AT THE BASE OF A HILL 3/4 MI SOUTH OF THE AIRPORT, JUST OFF THE APPROACH END OF RWY 32. THE AIRPORT WAS OBSCURED IN SNOW WITH VISIBILITY AROUND 1/3 TO 1/2 MI, BUT THE NORTH END OF THE FIELD WAS CLEAR.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT'S DEPARTURE INTO KNOWN ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS AND HIS CONTINUED VFR FLIGHT INTO INSTRUMENT METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS. CONTRIBUTING FACTOR(S) WAS: THE ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER
Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - DOWNWIND

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - OBSCURATION
2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - SNOW
3. (C) VFR FLIGHT INTO IMC - INITIATED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: APPROACH - VFR PATTERN - BASE LEG/BASE TO FINAL

Findings

4. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - HIGH OBSTRUCTION(S)
5. (F) OBJECT - TREE(S)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	61
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	1840 hours (Total, all aircraft), 356 hours (Total, this make and model), 1679 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 27 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 9 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	BEECH	Registration:	N1729Q
Model/Series:	95-A55 95-A55	Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Operator:	PAUL EDWARD FIELD	Engine Manufacturer:	Teledyne Cont
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	IO-470 L
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Business		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Instrument Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	SLK, 1663 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Witness
Lowest Ceiling:	Obscured / 300 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	15 knots / 20 knots, 280°
Temperature:	-6° C	Visibility	0 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	SARANAC LAKE, NY (SLK)	Destination:	

Airport Information

Airport:	LAKE PLACID (LKP)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Runway Used:	32	Runway Surface Condition:	Snow--dry
Runway Length/Width:	4200 ft / 50 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): ALAN J YURMAN

Adopted Date: 09/30/1991

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, or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/>.

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