



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

---

<b>Location:</b>	CHAPEL HILL, NC	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ATL86FA001
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	10/01/1985, 1520 EDT	<b>Registration:</b>	N2765U
<b>Aircraft:</b>	CESSNA 172	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Destroyed
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	2 Fatal
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

---

## Analysis

N2765U CRASHED SHORTLY AFTER MAKING A LOW PASS OVER A PRIVATE AIR STRIP NEAR CHAPEL HILL. THE AIRCRAFT WAS SEEN IN A NOSE HIGH ATTITUDE PRIOR TO IMPACTING A TREE ABOUT 40 ABOVE THE GROUND. THE AIRCRAFT ALSO COLLIDED WITH A POWER TRANSMISSION LINE. THE AIRCRAFT IMPACTED THE GROUND IN A NOSE LOW ATTITUDE AND BURNED. EXAMINATION OF THE WRECKAGE FAILED TO DISCLOSE ANY SYSTEM MALFUNCTION OR FAILURE.

## Probable Cause and Findings

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

## Findings

---

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT  
Phase of Operation: GO-AROUND (VFR)

### Findings

1. (C) FLIGHT CONTROLS - IMPROPER USE OF - PILOT IN COMMAND
  2. (F) LOW PASS - PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND
  3. (C) PULL-UP - EXCESSIVE - PILOT IN COMMAND
  4. (C) AIRSPEED - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
- 

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT  
Phase of Operation: GO-AROUND (VFR)

### Findings

5. (F) OBJECT - TREE(S)
  6. (F) OBJECT - WIRE, TRANSMISSION
- 

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	60, 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>	Yes
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	07/27/1983
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>		<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	1600 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	CESSNA	<b>Registration:</b>	N2765U
<b>Model/Series:</b>	172 172	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	No
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	17250365
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	4
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	03/17/1985, Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2300 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	94 Hours	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	3703 Hours	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	CONTINENTAL
<b>ELT:</b>		<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-300 SER
<b>Registered Owner:</b>		<b>Rated Power:</b>	145 hp
<b>Operator:</b>	GILBERT WEBB	<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:	RDU, 573 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	24 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1450 EDT	Direction from Accident Site:	0°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 6000 ft agl	Visibility	7 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	130°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	27° C / 14° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1525 EDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

## Airport Information

Airport:	HOGAN (09W)	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	0 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Traffic Pattern

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Fire:	On-Ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	On-Ground
Total Injuries:	2 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	PHILLIP POWELL	Report Date:	
Additional Participating Persons:	ROBERT SIMMONS; RALEIGH, NC		
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> .		

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

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](#).