



## National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Factual Report

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<b>Location:</b>	Traverse City, MI	<b>Accident Number:</b>	CHI04LA026
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	11/01/2003, 1552 EST	<b>Registration:</b>	N515KH
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Master Donald C BD5B	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Destroyed
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Fatal

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

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On November 1, 2003, at 1552 eastern standard time, an experimental amateur-built Master BD5B airplane, N515KH, piloted by a private pilot, was destroyed when it impacted the terrain during landing approach at the Cherry Capital Airport (TVC), Traverse City, Michigan. The airplane came to rest about 1,000 feet short of runway 36 (5,107 feet by 150 feet, asphalt). The 14 CFR Part 91 personal flight was operating in visual meteorological conditions without a flight plan. The pilot was fatally injured. The local flight originated at 1543.

According to the air traffic controller at TVC tower, the pilot taxied and called for departure at 1543. The airplane was cleared for takeoff and was to maintain a southwest heading after takeoff. The controller stated that the pilot called to return to the field at 1545. The controller asked the pilot if anything was wrong, because of the brief duration of the flight. The controller stated that at this time the pilot reported no problems. At 1546, the airplane was cleared to land. At 1547, the pilot indicated a landing gear problem and requested to circle. At 1550, the pilot informed the controller that "everything looks ok." The airplane was again cleared to land. At 1552, the airplane crashed approximately 1/2 mile south of runway 36.

The accident aircraft was an amateur-built Master BD5B, serial number 474. The BD5B is an experimental category airplane with 1 seat. The accident aircraft was powered by a Honda CX500 engine rated at 60 horsepower powering a pusher propeller. The accident aircraft was issued its registration on July 15, 2003, pending a N number change, and received its airworthiness certificate on October 20, 1991.

An investigator from the Federal Aviation Administration conducted a post-accident inspection of the airplane. No pre-impact defects were found.

The reported winds at the time of the accident were from 090 degrees at 5 knots.

An autopsy was performed on the pilot at Spectrum Health, Grand Rapids, Michigan. The Federal Aviation Administration's Civil Aeromedical Institute prepared a Forensic Toxicology Fatal Accident Report on the pilot. The report indicated SALICYLATE found in urine. Salicylate is found in Aspirin.

## Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	50, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine Land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Center
<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>	Yes
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	06/10/2003
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>		<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	180 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Master Donald C	<b>Registration:</b>	N515KH
<b>Model/Series:</b>	BD5B	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	Yes
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Experimental	<b>Serial Number:</b>	474
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Retractable - Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	1
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	Unknown	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	890 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>		<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Honda
<b>ELT:</b>		<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	CX500
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	Christopher S. Wood	<b>Rated Power:</b>	60 hp
<b>Operator:</b>	Christopher S. Wood	<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:	TVC, 624 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	1 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1553 EST	Direction from Accident Site:	180°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Overcast / 4000 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	90°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.29 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	6°C / 1°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Traverse City, MI (TVC)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	(TVC)	Type of Clearance:	VFR
Departure Time:	1543 EST	Type of Airspace:	Class D

## Airport Information

Airport:	CHERRY CAPITAL (TVC)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	624 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	36	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5107 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full Stop

## 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
Total Injuries:	1 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	44.741389, -85.582222

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	John M Brannen
Additional Participating Persons:	Dan Allison; Federal Aviation Administration; Grand Rapids, MI
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> .