



## MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

**Heidi Kemner**  
**Air Safety Investigator**  
**Eastern Region Aviation**

**December 5, 2019**

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**Subject:** ERA20LA039  
**Who:** Caleb Baugh - Pilot

In a telephone conversation, Mr. Baugh stated following:

- I was just flying along and it quit, like someone turned off the magnetos.
- I restarted it, by working the throttle back and forth, and then it stopped again.
- When it restarted, the RPM came up to 5800, which was up to near max RPM.
- Then 3-4 seconds later it turned off again.
- It didn't abruptly stop, but the RPM came down fast.
- I primed it and started it again, and then it started it again.
- Then it stopped again 3-4 seconds after it started.
- The last time I tried to start it, the prop wouldn't even spin.
- After the accident, I turned the prop through by hand after I got out.
- My opinion is that it ran out of oil. It shouldn't have by the book. It says it has 20 hours of flight time on filling that tank of oil. Or 4.5 tanks of fuel. I had that morning, about 8 am, filled oil tank all way up.
- Fueled airplane up at 8 am on the morning of the accident. Then flew for 2 hours.
- Used 12 gallons of fuel, checked the oil.
- Then when engine quit, after I landed, I checked the oil, and there was no oil left.
- I was making two-hour legs.
- I had flown 2 hours the previous day and there were no issues. The engine operated as expected.
- I was on the 3rd leg of the trip, but the second flight of that day, about an hour into the leg when the engine quit.
- Filled everything the day before, checked the oil, but did not fill it. It was way above half. It was about 3/4. That matched with the handbook.

- I read the handbook, it said the oil would last for about 20 hours, or 4.5 full fuel tanks, does that little oil tank have enough oil to run for 20 hours?
- Burning 6 gal/hr, 20 hrs of flight, if you mix it at 50:1, it should have taken almost 2.5 gallons of oil. No chance that oil tank holds that much.
- Tank is about 4-6 inches wide - 10 inches long.
- My thought is that the tank doesn't hold enough to get through that.
- If someone changed the oil tank and made it smaller, they didn't log it in the maintenance log.
- The pilot was using POH from the guy who built the airplane.
- The engine never coughed or spit and sputtered, it just reduced until there was nothing.