Telephone interview with Scotty Cox Mancos VFD

Volunteer Fireman Scotty Cox said he was standing at the landing zone (LZ), directing the helicopter in for landing.

The pilot made one low pass, then circled around to make his landing approach.

Mr. Cox said he advised the pilot via radio that the winds were calm. Asked what the temperature was, he replied "about 80 degrees [F.]."

Mr. Cox said he was looking directly at the approaching helicopter. It was about 220 feet above tree level when it suddenly "dropped straight down." He did not hear any unusual engine sounds. Although he did not see the impact, he did hear a "thump."