



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Eastern Region – Ashburn, Virginia

Summary of Email – James Cimino, Builder/Co-Owner of N7TL

Date: Between September 24, 2019 - October 10, 2019 1:51 PM

As part of the investigation, I spoke with the airplane's builder and co-owner, James Cimino, via email. The following is a summary of those emails:

- “As far as [aerobatics], John was known to do some low g [aerobatics] such as aileron rolls, I do not know if they planned to do any during the flight, but I would not be surprised. It looks like they were accelerating to do something. Rolling an RV-8 to the right can be a bit problematic if you don't get the nose up high enough before you enter the roll, once you go beyond 90 degrees the nose will drop fast. I only rolled the plane to the left.”
- “To answer your questions, the aircraft had a control stick in the rear with no rudder pedals or throttle controls. The stick was made to be easily removed by a pin, but I doubt John would have removed it if he was giving a demonstration flight. I do not know how much fuel was on board but John always kept it fueled and would never park it low since there was no fuel available at the airport. John had been the only one flying the plane in the recent past and he never contacted me to express any maintenance issues with the airplane. If there was anything serious, I'm sure he would have called me.”
- “I have not flown the airplane since November of 2017 and I live about two hours from the airport. John Parker was the only one using the airplane and was taking care of the maintenance. I was under the impression that he would have taken the airplane for inspections or there were also A&P's in the EAA Chapter who may have been helping him out. I don't know if he had another logbook for the airplane or not. I am sure the airplane had been inspected up to the last time I flew it in 2017 but again can not tell you where the records are since John had possession of all the logs.”

Leah D. Read, Sr. ASI