



NTSB MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

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Eastern Region, Office of Aviation Safety (ERA)
National Transportation Safety Board

Date: 3/14/2022
Person Contacted: PETE KAZAR (Friend of Pilot)
NTSB Accident Number: ERA22FA149

Narrative:

Mr. Pete Kazar was contacted via telephone and reported the following details pertaining to the accident circumstances. The below record is a summary of what was reported:

- There was an EAA local chapter meeting on Saturday (March 5, 2022). The accident pilot discussed with Mr. Kazar that he and his wife were leaving for Gulf Shores (Florida) as soon as he could get his plane fixed. He believed the airplane was located in Traverse City to get an altitude servo (Cherry Capital Airport).
- Mr. Kazar asked the accident pilot, "are you comfortable flying without autopilot and single pilot that far?"
- The accident pilot's exact statement, according to Mr. Kazar was, "yeah I'll be fine."
- The purpose of the cross-country flights to the best of his knowledge was to look at property for the winter months in Florida.
- Mr. Kazar believed that there was an engine fire during maintenance while the plane was at Traverse City. The maintenance personnel experienced an engine fire during start-up due to over priming. A fire at the Carburetor Box was what he was told about by the accident pilot. The accident pilot told him that the issue was resolved by maintenance, however, the pilot as of the Saturday before the accident, was still unsure if they could get the altitude servo fixed for the autopilot.
- Mr. Kazar believed that the accident pilot conducted two post-maintenance flights on Monday before the accident day.
- Mr. Kazar reported that the Airport Manager, Barstow, Midland, Sarah Pagano may have additional information. [REDACTED]
- The accident pilot was accustomed to flying his spouse all over the country due to her job for the past few years.

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