



Record of Conversation

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National Transportation Safety Board
Investigator in Charge

NTSB Accident Number: WPR20LA238
Aircraft Registration & Make/Model: N7677C / Piper PA 32R-300
Accident Location: West Jordan, Utah.
Accident Date: July 25, 2020

Rebecca Wyckoff
Wife of the pilot, first adult female passenger
September 1, 2020

In a telephone interview of the wife of the pilot and a subsequent visit at the hospital to retrieve the maintenance logbooks for the airplane, the wife stated that she had no recollection of the accident. She also stated that she did not wish to remember the accident due to the traumatic nature of the event.

October 6, 2020

In a telephone interview with Mrs. Wyckoff, she stated that they were in Utah on vacation and were generally relaxing and enjoying themselves. She stated that the pilot's physical and mental health was great during the previous 72 hours. She stated that he had adequate rest for that period as well. On Friday the 24th, she and the pilot travelled to Park City, Utah to visit friends. She repeated that they were just having a fun vacation.

The IIC asked about events on the 25th prior to the accident, she stated that she was working on a paper for school and the pilot was planning the flight. She said the pilot did a weight and balance and was planning to file an IFR flight plan for over the Grand Canyon and maybe to Lake Powell afterwards. She said he showed her the piece of paper where he planned everything out. She said it was the last thing she remembered before waking up in the hospital. When she was told that the daughter of the other female passenger mentioned weighing everything, RW stated that yes, that occurred earlier in the morning. She said that they made sure that everything was set and was good to go because "we were so high up here" [meaning the altitude of the airport].

When asked if the pilot was talking to her about the preflight planning or if she just overheard it, she said that he was talking to her a little bit about it as he was doing it, but she was concentrating on her paper, and not really concentrating on his work.

When asked about the pilot talking about the weight and balance, she said that he definitely talked to her about it. She said that she talked to him about it a couple of times because it was warm out and they were up high, and she just wanted to double check and make sure that everything was good, and he said, "yeah it's all good." She said that the pilot wanted her to sit up front in case the flight got tricky, as far as where he needed to be point to point, and how high elevation wise he needed to be since they would be going over the Grand Canyon. He said that he did not want to mess it up.

When presented with the seating arrangements of the passengers, she stated that she did not recall where anyone was sitting. The IIC gave her the seating arrangement and she stated "that was no surprise as they had loaded the airplane up in a similar fashion when flying other friends. She also stated that the pilot did that for weight and balance as well and he talked about it a couple of times. She reiterated that the pilot wanted to make sure things were correct because of how high they were.

When asked about the fuel for the flight she stated that she did not know the amount of fuel on the airplane, but she knew that he took the amount into consideration. When asked about the route of flight, she stated that they were going to the Grand Canyon and then maybe Lake Powell, but it was a "We'll get up there and see how it goes kind of thing." She stated it was a fun flight, there was no urge to go or no rush to go. It was just a "Hey we are going to go sight-seeing."

When asked about the airplane, she stated that she thought he got it last Summer. She stated that it was purchased from a government auction from Florida. She said that he purchased the airplane and got a crazy bill for the annual. She did not recall how the pilot got the airplane up to Virginia because he was not qualified at the time. When asked if the pilot owned other airplanes, she stated that they owned a Grumman Tiger and an RV-6A.

She stated the pilot loved to fly and was excited to learn that he could fly over the Grand Canyon. She stated that he definitely did his homework to prepare to fly over the Grand Canyon.

When asked about any recollections on the accident flight, she stated "no, not at all, thank God." She stated that she is still in the mental place where she would rather not recall the events of the flight.

When asked about the airplane and his preflight activities, she stated that he did a full runup every time and would even comment on others who did not. She said that he does the full propeller check and usually three times, he checks the magnetos, and checks the RPM's, and then all the control surfaces and the engine run up. When asked about the control surfaces, she said that he does check the handle in between the seats when he does the runup. She said that he

was very meticulous about the runup “because these planes are old.” She said for him it was like a safety thing. She said, “for him it was something that he did every time.”

When asked if the pilot did any of his own maintenance, she said that he may have helped clean the spark plugs one time.