



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	LAPEER, Michigan	<b>Accident Number:</b>	CHI83FA419
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	September 7, 1983, 17:00 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N275HW
<b>Aircraft:</b>	WARREN	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Destroyed
<b>Defining Event:</b>	MONERI S	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Fatal
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

THE GLIDER COLLIDED WITH THE GROUND AFTER AN UNSCHEDULED TOW RELEASE AT ABOUT 150 FT AGL. THIS WAS THE PLTS FIRST FLT IN THIS ACFT AFTER HAVING THE ENGINE REMOVED AND THE ACFT RECERTIFIED AS A GLIDER. GROUND PERSONNEL OBSERVED THE GLIDER AND TOW PILOT RELEASE THE TOW ROPE AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME. THE GLIDER'S BANK ANGLE CONTINUED TO INCREASE AND THE NOSE DROPPED. THE GLIDER CONTINUED IN THIS ATTITUDE UNTIL THE LEFT WING TIP STRUCK THE GROUND. EXAMINATION OF THE WRECKAGE REVEALED NO PRE-IMPACT MALFUNCTION/FAILURE.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

### Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

#### Findings

1. (C) FLIGHT CONTROLS - IMPROPER USE OF - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) PROCEDURES/DIRECTIVES - NOT FOLLOWED - PILOT IN COMMAND

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	57,Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Unknown
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	Glider	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>		<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	Yes
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Valid Medical-w/ waivers/lim	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	July 7, 1983
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	No	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	1000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 927 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 18 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	WARREN	<b>Registration:</b>	N275HW
<b>Model/Series:</b>	MONERI S MONERI S	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Glider
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	Yes
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Experimental (Special)	<b>Serial Number:</b>	275
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>		<b>Seats:</b>	1
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	August 31, 1983 Unknown	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	450 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	0 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	0 Unknown
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	4 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	
<b>ELT:</b>	Not installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	HOWARD B. WARREN	<b>Rated Power:</b>	
<b>Operator:</b>		<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	
<b>Operator Does Business As:</b>		<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>	

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	15 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots / None	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	270°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	24°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	17:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class D

## Airport Information

Airport:	DUPONT LAPEER D95	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	840 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	27	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	1925 ft / 175 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Fatal	Latitude, Longitude:	43.039409,-83.320404(est)

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):** Rathke, Fred

**Additional Participating Persons:**

**Original Publish Date:**

**Last Revision Date:**

**Investigation Class:** [Class](#)

**Note:**

**Investigation Docket:** <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=12024>

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