



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	MIDDLETOWN, Ohio	<b>Accident Number:</b>	CHI88LA202
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	August 12, 1988, 15:00 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N763E
<b>Aircraft:</b>	WACO                      ATO	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	2 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

THE PLT STATED THAT DURING INITIAL CLIMB THE ENGINE SPATTERED AND HE DISCOVERED THAT THE FUEL PRESSURE GAUGE READ ZERO. HE MADE AN IMMEDIATE RIGHT TURN BACK TOWARD THE AIRPORT. WHILE ATTEMPTING TO GLIDE TO THE AIRPORT HE NOTICED THAT THE FUEL SELECTOR WAS SET ON THE AUXILIARY TANK. THE PILOT THEN SELECTED THE MAIN TANK WHICH HELD APPROXIMATELY 61 GALLONS OF FUEL. THE PLT INDICATED THAT BEFORE THE ENGINE COULD RESUME POWER THE AIRPLANE STRUCK A TREE AND CONTINUED ITS DESCENT INTO A POND AND FLIPPED OVER. BOTH PERSONS THEN EXITED THE AIRPLANE AND WERE PICKED UP BY A SMALL BOAT.

## Probable Cause and Findings

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

### Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL  
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

#### Findings

1. (C) FLUID,FUEL - STARVATION
2. (C) FUEL TANK SELECTOR POSITION - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) REMEDIAL ACTION - DELAYED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY  
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Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Findings  
4. (F) OBJECT - TREE(S)  
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Occurrence #4: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings  
5. TERRAIN CONDITION - WATER, GLASSY

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	31, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Rear
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	Yes
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	October 14, 1987
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	325 hours (Total, all aircraft), 4 hours (Total, this make and model), 200 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	WACO	<b>Registration:</b>	N763E
<b>Model/Series:</b>	ATO ATO	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	114
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	2
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	August 2, 1988 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2600 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	6 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	1310 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	WRIGHT
<b>ELT:</b>		<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	R-975-11
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	WILLIAM E. HOGAN	<b>Rated Power:</b>	420 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>		<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None
<b>Operator Does Business As:</b>		<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>	

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>		<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Observation Time:</b>		<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Unknown / 4000 ft AGL	<b>Visibility</b>	5 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	Broken / 4000 ft AGL	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	5 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	230°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>		<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	32°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	N/A - None - Haze		
<b>Departure Point:</b>		<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>		<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	15:00 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>		<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	0 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	
<b>Runway Used:</b>	0	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	0 ft / 0 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Forced landing

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	2 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	39.560344,-84.41954(est)

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):** Bruce, William

**Additional Participating Persons:**

**Original Publish Date:** December 29, 1989

**Last Revision Date:**

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

**Note:**

**Investigation Docket:** <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=14139>

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