



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	WANTAGH, New York	<b>Accident Number:</b>	NYC88LA165
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	June 14, 1988, 19:30 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N6110V
<b>Aircraft:</b>	LAKE LA-4-200	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Serious
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

THE PILOT WAS ON A RETURN VFR FLIGHT TO REPUBLIC AIRPORT AFTER HAVING REPAIRS PERFORMED ON THE AIRCRAFT. THE PILOT STATED THAT HE EXPERIENCED AN ENGINE POWER LOSS AND PREPARED FOR AN EMERGENCY LANDING WITH THE GEARS RETRACTED. THE AIRCRAFT LANDED BETWEEN TWO SAND DUNES AND INCURRED STRUCTURAL DAMAGE. POST ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REVEALED THAT THERE WAS NO FUEL ON BOARD THE AIRCRAFT AT THE TIME OF THE ACCIDENT. THE PILOT REPORTED THAT THE FUEL GAUGE STILL READ FULL WHEN THE POWER LOSS OCCURRED AFTER FLYING FOR ABOUT ONE HOUR.

## 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) - MECH FAILURE/MALF  
Phase of Operation: CRUISE - NORMAL

#### Findings

1. (F) ENGINE INSTRUMENTS,FUEL QUANTITY GAGE - INCORRECT
2. (C) AIRCRAFT PREFLIGHT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (C) FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION
4. (F) REFUELING - NOT PERFORMED - PILOT IN COMMAND

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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY  
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Occurrence #3: GEAR NOT EXTENDED  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

5. TERRAIN CONDITION - SAND BAR
6. WHEELS UP LANDING - INTENTIONAL - PILOT IN COMMAND

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	56, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land; Single-engine sea	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 2 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	August 3, 1988
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	313 hours (Total, all aircraft), 56 hours (Total, this make and model), 108 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 47 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 22 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	LAKE	<b>Registration:</b>	N6110V
<b>Model/Series:</b>	LA-4-200 LA-4-200	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	800
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Amphibian	<b>Seats:</b>	4
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	March 22, 1988 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2690 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	37 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	1021 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	LYCOMING
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	IO-360-A1B
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	EDWARD J. VALLARELLA	<b>Rated Power:</b>	200 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>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	30 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	5 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	90°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	20°C / -18°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	NEW BEDFORD , MA	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	FARMINGDALE , NY (FRG )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	18:00 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 Serious	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 Serious	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	40.659267,-73.51052(est)

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):** Hancock, Robert

**Additional Participating Persons:**

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

**Last Revision Date:**

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

**Note:**

**Investigation Docket:** <https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=36169>

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