



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Clifton, Texas	Accident Number:	GAA18CA390
Date & Time:	July 1, 2018, 10:45 Local	Registration:	N7625Q
Aircraft:	Cessna 421	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control in flight	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that, during short final, while approaching the runway threshold, he reduced the engine power to maintain glideslope, added full flaps, and applied a little left rudder to maintain the runway heading. Subsequently, the airplane sank and landed hard, and the nose landing gear collapsed.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to both engine mounts, the right wing, tail, and rudder.

The pilot also reported that, before the approach, an air traffic controller advised him that the wind at the destination airport was from 190° at 14 knots, gusting to 18 knots. The airport's automated weather observation station reported that, about 10 minutes after the accident, the wind was from 200° at 14 knots. The airplane landed on runway 14.

The Airport Facility Directory advised, "Steep drop off north of runway 14."

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

The pilot's improper landing flare in crosswind conditions, which resulted in a hard landing.

Findings

Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot
Aircraft	Landing flare - Not attained/maintained
Environmental issues	Crosswind - Effect on operation
Environmental issues	Gusts - Effect on operation

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing	Loss of control in flight (Defining event)
Landing	Hard landing
Landing	Landing gear collapse

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	69, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	3-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	February 5, 2018
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	March 19, 2018
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 2116 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1530 hours (Total, this make and model), 2033 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 24 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 14.5 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 0.5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N7625Q
Model/Series:	421 B	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1973	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	421B0364
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	7
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	September 27, 2017 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	7450 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	2 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	10949.1 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Cont Motor
ELT:	C91 installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	Engine Model/Series:	GTSIO-520-H1
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	375 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KACT, 508 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	21 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	14:51 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	124°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	9 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	14 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	None / None
Wind Direction:	190°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	N/A / N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.96 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	29°C / 21°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Dallas, TX (RBD)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Clifton, TX (7F7)	Type of Clearance:	VFR flight following
Departure Time:	10:15 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	CLIFTON MUNI/ISENHOWER FIELD 7F7	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	760 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	14	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3000 ft / 50 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	31.817222,-97.569442(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Nepomuceno, Eleazar
Additional Participating Persons:	Paul Pia; FAA; Irving, TX
Original Publish Date:	June 5, 2019
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=97664

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