



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	Moneta, Virginia	<b>Accident Number:</b>	GAA18CA414
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	July 5, 2018, 16:55 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N29963
<b>Aircraft:</b>	North American AT	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Loss of control on ground	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The pilot of the tailwheel-equipped airplane reported that, during landing, he made a three-point touchdown, and the airplane bounced. Following the bounce, upon touchdown, the airplane veered sharply right and ground looped, the left landing gear collapsed, and the airplane impacted trees. The pilot added that the descent rate was higher than normal.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to both wings.

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 failure to maintain a proper descent rate, which resulted in a bounced landing and his subsequent failure to maintain directional.

## Findings

<b>Aircraft</b>	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
<b>Personnel issues</b>	Aircraft control - Pilot
<b>Aircraft</b>	Descent rate - Not attained/maintained
<b>Environmental issues</b>	Tree(s) - Contributed to outcome

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown	Abnormal runway contact
Landing-flare/touchdown	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing-flare/touchdown	Landing gear collapse
Landing-flare/touchdown	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

### Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	56,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Unknown
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Unknown
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:	April 1, 2018
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	(Estimated)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	North American	Registration:	N29963
Model/Series:	AT 6D	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1942	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	49-2977
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	5300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	P&W
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	R1340 SERIES
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	550 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	KROA,1176 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	22 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	20:54 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	305°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Few / 4500 ft AGL	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>		<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	9 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	None / None
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	90°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	N/A / N/A
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30.26 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	32°C / 19°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Culpeper, VA (CJR )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Moneta, VA (W91 )	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>		<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	Smith Mountain Lake W91	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	892 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	05	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	3058 ft / 50 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Full stop;Straight-in

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<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 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	37.107776,-79.592498(est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Nepomuceno, Eleazar
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Stephen Harness; FAA; Richmond, VA
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	June 10, 2019
<b>Note:</b>	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=97744">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=97744</a>

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