



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

<b>Location:</b>	MARLIN, TX	<b>Accident Number:</b>	FTW87FA088
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	03/30/1987, 1257 CST	<b>Registration:</b>	N8191V
<b>Aircraft:</b>	PIPER PA-28-181	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Fatal
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General Aviation - Aerial Observation		

## Analysis

THE ACFT HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN PIPELINE PATROL THROUGHOUT ITS HISTORY OF 7490 FLT HRS. JUST BEFORE THE ACDNT, THE ACFT WAS OBSERVED IN STRAIGHT & LVL FLT ALONG A PIPELINE RIGHT-OF-WAY. ACCORDING TO WITNESSES, THE ACFT WAS AT LOW ALT WHEN A WING SEPARATED & THE ACFT PLUNGED TO THE GROUND. THE LEFT WING WAS FND 588' FROM THE MAIN WRECKAGE. AN INVESTIGATION REVEALED IT HAD SEPD AT THE WING ROOT FROM FATIGUE FAILURE. THE FATIGUE HAD ORIGINATED NEAR ONE OF THE OUTBOARD CARRY-THROUGH ATTACHMENT BOLT HOLES.

## Probable Cause

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

## Findings

Occurrence #1: AIRFRAME/COMPONENT/SYSTEM FAILURE/MALFUNCTION  
Phase of Operation: CRUISE

### Findings

1. (C) WING,SPAR - FATIGUE
2. WING,SPAR - SEPARATION

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

## Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial	<b>Age:</b>	45
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine Land	<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Flight Time:</b>	9144 hours (Total, all aircraft), 2500 hours (Total, this make and model), 7630 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 352 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 127 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	PIPER	Registration:	N8191V
Model/Series:	PA-28-181 PA-28-181	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	GRIFFIN PIPELINE PATROL CO.	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-360-A4M
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Aerial Observation		

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	ACT, 516 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	20 knots / 27 knots, 300°
Temperature:	8°C	Visibility	15 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	CLEBURNE, TX (F18)	Destination:	CONROE, TX (CXO)

## Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:			

## Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	WARREN V WANDEL	Adopted Date:	06/07/1989
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at <a href="mailto:pubinq@ntsb.gov">pubinq@ntsb.gov</a> , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/</a> .		

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