

**Aviation Safety Investigation Report
198702433**

Piper PA32-660BK

31 October 1987

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NOTE: All air safety occurrences reported to the ATSB are categorised and recorded. For a detailed explanation on Category definitions please refer to the ATSB website at www.atsb.gov.au.

Occurrence Number: 198702433
Location: Griffith NSW
Date: 31 October 1987
Highest Injury Level: Nil
Injuries:

Occurrence Type: Accident

Time: 1017

	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None
Crew	0	0	1	1
Ground	0	0	0	-
Passenger	0	0	0	4
Total	0	0	0	5

Aircraft Details: Piper PA32-660BK
Registration: VH-WIV
Serial Number: 32R-8013050
Operation Type: Private (Pleasure)
Damage Level: Substantial
Departure Point: Moorabbin VIC
Departure Time: 0812
Destination: Griffith NSW

Approved for Release: 23 February 1988

Circumstances:

The pilot was making a landing approach in gusty wind conditions. The aircraft was observed to descend rapidly, and in a nose high attitude, from a height of about 80 feet above the runway. The subsequent contact with the runway was heavy, and the right maingear collapsed. At the time of the approach, the aircraft centre of gravity was at or slightly aft of the rear limit, and the weight was close to the maximum allowable. The pilot had not attempted to arrest the rate of descent, and the aircraft had struck the ground with sufficient force to bend the axles of both maingears and to distort the wing surfaces. This accident was not the subject of an on scene investigation.