

EAA Chapter 1373 Newsletter

May 2020

Next Meeting: Meetings have been cancelled until further notice. Also, Young Eagle activities are suspended until further notice.



Frank Graham Meyer

It is my sad duty to report that Frank Graham Meyer passed away suddenly in a tragic single person airplane accident on Sunday, May 3, 2020, at the Delta Blake Airfield in Delta, Colorado. He was 81 years old.

EAA Chapter 1373 will have a celebration of Graham's life at a future meeting. A private family service will be held at a later date. [Frank Graham Meyer Obituary](#)

We would appreciate receiving any memories or pictures you have of Graham. Please email them to eaal373news@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

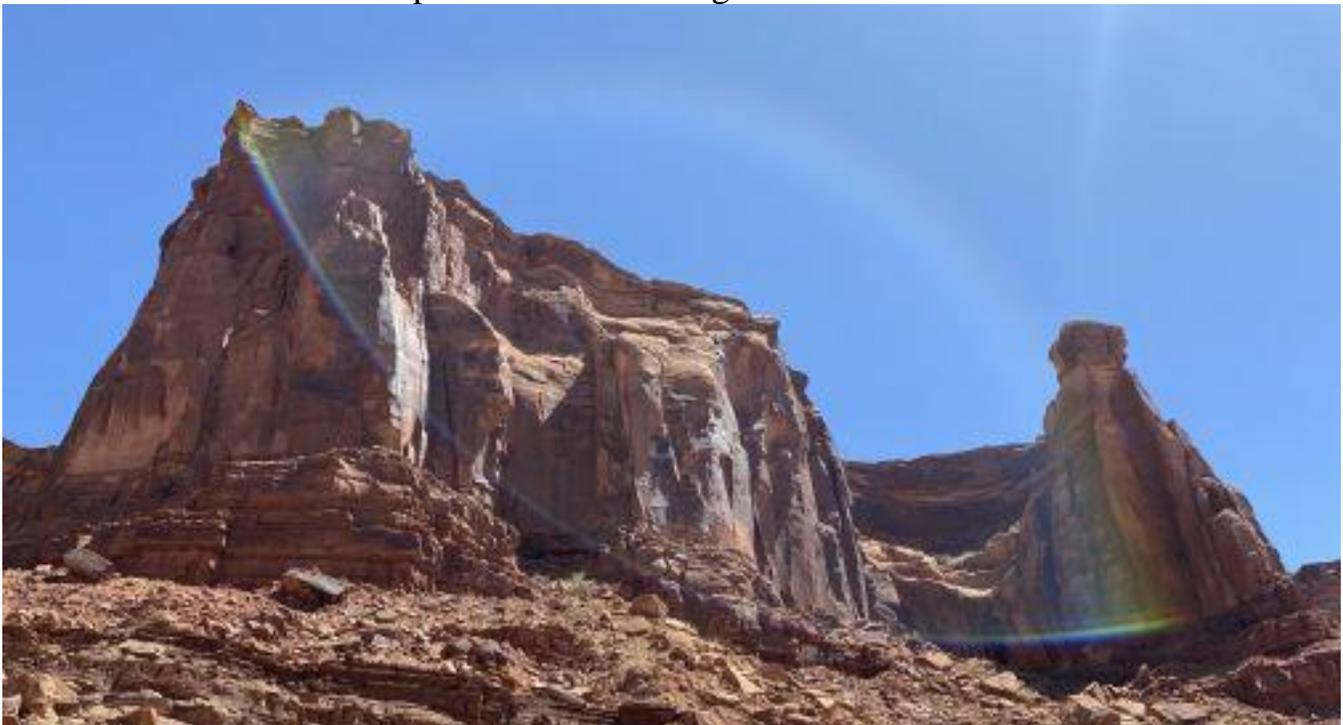
Clayton Caywood

President, EAA Chapter 1373

Luke's Mineral Canyon Adventure

For those that don't know, my Cessna 175 has been down since March for annual. I did an owner-assist annual (under A&P/IA supervision) and ran all the new wires and installed the new ADSB transponder, took out all the old apollo loran components and upgraded to a digital oil pressure/temp gauge. I may or may not have cut a couple wrong wires taking out the old loran and lost my radio, so I got to learn a LOT about patience and troubleshooting radios. Before I continue a HUGE thanks to Clay, Graham, and Lowell for all the help and guidance throughout this process. Also to Kent and Alan for letting me borrow a few things.

Before I know it, Saturday April 25 rolls around. It was a nice cool morning (around 50 degrees F) and winds aloft up to 12,000' were around 5 kts. I couldn't help but to think what a beautiful morning it would be to go burn some avgas as I heard a fellow aviator fly over my house. Instead, I'm drinking coffee with Gunner (my dog who flies with me in my plane) studying a King KX 155 wiring diagram so I can figure out what wires I need to hook back up so I have a radio again.



At 9:30 am my phone rings, it's my buddy Chuck from Montrose, who flies a Maule. "Hey Luke, Charlie wants to go have a sandwich in Utah, want to go with me?" As I throw the KX 155 wiring diagram in the air and top off my dog's water and food bowl I say, "Absolutely, when are we leaving?" Before I know it we're rolling onto the runway. "Montrose traffic Skywagon 56C flight of two departing 31 left turn out Montrose." As we make a gentle left turn over the FBO in formation with Charlie and his Skywagon, I can't help but to think, "Today is going to be a good day."

We flew pretty much direct from MTJ to UT75 but went to the north of the La Sal Mountains so we didn't have to pretend we were dive bombers once we got close to Moab. The Skywagon pulled away from us and arrived at Mineral Canyon about ten minutes before we did.

It was a little choppy once we got over Moab at about 1500-2000' AGL. Charlie did some runway recon and found that the windsock was limp. So, by the time we were over the field in the Maule we were able to watch him grease it onto the strip. "Hey guys, there's quite a sinker right after that plateau on short final, other than that it's nice down here." From the right seat I sat there as a quiet little sponge absorbing everything I could from Chuck as he's flown this Maule for about 10 years. After a textbook backcountry landing, we parked the plane, got out, and joined Charlie as we all stood quietly looking around in solitude. After a few moments of soaking it all in, we grab water

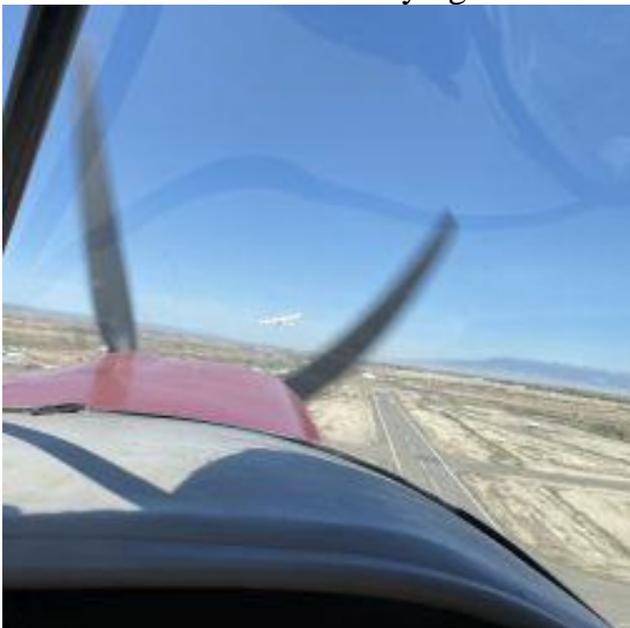


and started walking down the runway. We headed towards the mine and decided that we have time to hike around for a while before eating lunch and heading back. Chuck and Charlie are both avid backcountry goers, so to be able to join them and listen to them debrief during the hike was a great experience for me. We enjoyed a nice hike and ended up at an awesome spot to take some photos overlooking the planes and canyon.





After eating lunch under the wing we departed UT75 and pointed the nose back East for some brief formation flying as we left Utah before the Skywagon could pull away.



This was my first time here, and even almost a week later, I'm still replaying the whole day in my head. It was also a double edged sword because now Lowell has a young guy asking him if he'd be willing to help relocate the small wheel on a 175 again! (Guilty as charged!) Haha!

I know I'm not flying an experimental (YET) but I do want to say thank you to everyone for exchanging waves and smiles, hangar talk, lending me tools/equipment and experience/advice along the way of my last two years of airplane ownership. I love the community we have here and look forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting which is hopefully sooner than later.

The following DCI article is re-printed with permission of the publisher.

https://www.deltacountyindependent.com/news/aircraft-association-mourns-veteran-%20member/article_e3c81ed8-90a8-11ea-a8af-b3f059fccbe8.html

Aircraft Association Mourns Veteran Member

By Katharhynn Heidelberg Staff writer, May 7, 2020

When it came to experimental aircraft, few could match the knowledge of Graham Meyer, those who knew him said Monday, one day after he died in a crash at Delta's Blake Field. "He was a very valued member in our airplane community. It will be a big hole trying to fill his shoes, with what he knew," said Clayton Caywood, president of the Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 1373.

Meyer was apparently piloting an experimental aircraft that crashed into the hillside on the south side of the runway Sunday morning. According to National Transportation Safety Board records on file for its tail number, the plane was a fixed-wing, single-engine aircraft with a certificate valid through the end of 2021.

Caywood said Meyer was helping another man, who had recently purchased the aircraft and found the plane not to be as he expected. The plane came down shortly after 11 a.m. Sunday. A witness playing golf at Devil's Thumb described the aircraft as making a "chainsaw" sound and noticed its wings were alternating up and down as it descended, Delta County Sheriff Mark Taylor said. The witness then saw a plume of dust or smoke and called 911.

Delta County Sheriff's Office deputies, along with the Delta Fire Department, emergency medical technicians, the Delta County Ambulance District and CareFlight of the Rockies, responded and located the wreckage. The pilot, and lone occupant, was found deceased. Federal Aviation Administration and NTSB investigators are investigating the crash and could have a preliminary report out within two weeks. A final report, with a finding on the cause of the crash, could take much longer, up to two years.

Although the NTSB would ordinarily travel to the scene and look at the crash site, then conduct a detailed examination of the wreckage before proceeding with interviews and assembling paperwork, the coronavirus is changing the sequencing of the investigation, Eric Weiss, a duty officer for the agency, said. The NTSB is relying on the FAA and local officials to provide information and to conduct the paperwork leg of its investigation first. Since the wreckage is considered evidence and is to be stored in a secure location, the NTSB would be able to view it at a later time.

Caywood said Meyer had been a member of the EAA Chapter 1373 since its founding about 14 years ago and also was a member of EAA Chapter 800 in the Fruita/Loma area. “He was a pilot and started flying at early age. He had flown hang gliders, airplanes and airplanes he had built,” Caywood said.

Meyer was a technical counselor for the Delta EAA chapter. “There’s not many experimental aircraft flying around western Colorado, Grand Junction or here, that Graham hadn’t helped somebody with,” Caywood said. He said Meyer was an engineer, as well as a classical guitarist. Another experimental aircraft pilot described Meyer as the chapter’s “electronic wizard” in a Delta County Independent interview last year.

“He was very free with his time to come help people out. Even that aircraft he was flying Sunday was one he was helping someone else with. He was a very well-rounded individual. I would say he was probably one of the smartest men I ever met,” Caywood added.

“There’s hardly a homebuilt aircraft in this area that Graham hasn’t helped people with. We were very, very fortunate to have him.

“ ... He deserves to be honored.”

Welcome Pilots and Friends!

We want to continue to share our aviation interests and happenings with you. Please visit our website at <http://www.eaa1373.org/> or go directly to our [Resources Page](#) to see information you need to know. Or [Contact us](#) online if you have questions about our chapter or website. Private areas of our website are available only to members of EAA Chapter 1373. The private areas include the member directory, member profiles, and the forums. If you don't know your password, or have never used it before, just put your email address in the box and click "Forgotten". Your password will be emailed to you. *(If you get an error, then we might have the wrong email address for you. Please [Contact us](#) and include your new email address*

Information from our Resources Page

Frequently Asked Questions

- [EAB and Light Sport Aircraft](#)
- [ADS-B](#)
- [Sport Pilot Certification](#)
- [Medical and Basic Med](#)
- [Glossary of Aviation Acronyms](#)

Planning & Flying

- [Tips for High Density Altitudes](#)
- [Pilot Log Book template](#)
- [VFR Flight Planner and Nav Log templates](#)
- [Mountain AWOS](#)
- [Pilot Workshops - Tip of the Week](#)
- [Resources from Aspen Flying Club \(Centennial\)](#)
- [Radio calls at Centennial \(KAPA\)](#)

Builder Resources

- [Condition Inspection Checklist](#) (see also [FAQ](#))
- [Aircraft Log template](#)
- [SolidWorks](#) (free download)
- [Kitplanes Magazine](#)
- [WonderHowTo: Making a fiberglass mold](#)
- [CST: Making a fiberglass mold](#) (also [here](#))

Parts, Tools, Supplies

- [Aero Electric Connection](#)
- [Aircraft Spruce & Specialty](#)
- [B and C Specialty Products](#)
- [Cleveland Aircraft Tool](#)
- [Colorado Airparts \(Delta\)](#)
- [Stein Air](#)
- [Wicks](#)

Nearby FBO's and Mechanics

- [Smiling Aviation \(KAJZ\)](#)
- [Atlantic Aviation \(KMTJ\)](#)
- [Patriot Repairs](#)
- [French Field Aviation \(99V\)](#)
- [DNT Avionics](#)

Flight Schools and Instructors

- [Dennis Duggan \(Delta\)](#)
- [Bill Swartz \(Montrose\)](#)
- [Crooked Horn Aviation \(Grand Junction\)](#)
- [Colorado Flight Center \(Grand Junction\)](#)

Aviation Organizations

- [Experimental Aircraft Association](#)
- [EAA Chapter 800 \(Grand Junction\)](#)
- [EAA Young Eagles](#)
- [AOPA](#)
- [CAF \(Rocky Mountain Wing\)](#)
- [Colorado Pilots Association](#)

And more at our [Resources Page](#) ...

Aircraft Kit Manufacturers

Owner Forums & Resources

Keep up with EAA.org news!! AirVenture 2020 in Oshkosh is officially cancelled.

Pilots, Friends and Suspicious Characters!

Have you been flying? We miss seeing you at the airport. However, if you see any suspicious characters please say something to us, Smiling Aviation (970-874-5181) or Delta County Sheriff Dispatch (970 874-2015) non-emergency.



If you are on Facebook, please visit us at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ea1373/> and click +Join Group under our cover photo of Blake Field. Please feel free to add anything from how you are doing to any updates and photos of projects plane. Share your love of aviation!

EAA 1373 Newsletter Submissions are Welcome ea1373news@gmail.com

Thanks to all for your newsletter submissions. We are happy to publish aviation-related pictures, articles and items to buy, sell or give away.

Effective February 1, 2020, Chapter members gladly voted to accept Ray Veatch's proposal to step down as Treasurer so that he can take on the role of Young Eagles Coordinator. Chuck Clemen has agreed to take over the Treasurer role in addition to his duties as Secretary. Thank You Ray for helping our Young Eagles! And Thank You Chuck for taking on additional responsibility!

http://www.eaa1373.org/mems_area_page/off_lead_page/

Chapter Board of Directors and Officers

Office	Names	Term
President:	Clay Caywood	2021
Vice President:	<u>Alan Collins</u>	2021
Secretary/Treasurer:	Chuck Clemen	2021

Volunteer Leaders

Position	Names
Webmaster:	<u>Alan Collins</u>
Newsletter Editor:	Marc Waterman
Young Eagles Coordinator:	Ray Veatch
Tech Counselors:	Bob Trumpfeller Graham Meyer Lowell Manary