

PERRY EDWIN BRUNK

1932 - 1991

The husband of Pigeon native Fern (Maust) Brunk, Perry Edwin Brunk, age 59, of Harrisonburg, Va., was the victim of a plane crash which claimed his life on July 1 in Augusta County, Va.

The single-engine aircraft Brunk was piloting apparently was shook apart in a violent thunderstorm and crashed into a barn just seven miles away from his destination at the Shenandoah Valley Airport. Brunk was returning home after taking his daughter Janette and two others to a camp in Wise County. An FAA spokesman said Brunk did not file a flight plan, but did get information on weather and traffic conditions from Washington D.C. Flight Service.

The violence of the storm appears to be the cause, but the investigation is continuing, according to Virginia State Police. The barn that was hit is about 50 yards behind the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Humphreys and was leveled by the explosive fire.

Funeral services for Brunk were held Saturday, July 6 at 11 a.m. at the C.K. Lehman Auditorium at Eastern Mennonite College. The Rev. Shirlee K. Yoder and Rev. John Martin conducted the services and a private burial was planned at Weavers Mennonite Church Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife, Fern; children Sylvia Reece and husband Michael of New Holland, Pa., Randall Brunk and wife Elizabeth of Mitchellville, Md., Cathryn of Mount Airy, Md., Janette Brunk, Christina Brunk and Anthony Brunk, all of Harrisonburg and three grandchildren. His family also includes four sisters and three brothers.

Memorials may be made to the Mennonite Economic Development Association (MEDA) or to Laurelville Mennonite Church Center Scholarship Fund. Donations may be mailed to Park View Mennonite Church, 1600 North College Avenue, Harrisonburg, Va., 22801.