

Ultralight crash victim Geoff Arthur remembered as quiet, well-respected experienced pilot

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Photo: Geoff Arthur was killed when his ultralight crashed on a property south of Jamestown. (Flinders News: Fairfax Media)

Vietnam veteran Geoff Arthur, who was killed in an ultralight crash in South Australia's mid-north yesterday, has been praised as a quiet and well-respected man.

Mr Arthur, 70, an experienced pilot from the small town of Melrose, died when the single-engine aircraft crashed at Washpool about 20 kilometres south of Jamestown about 5:30pm.

The cause of the accident is yet to be determined but it is believed the aircraft struck powerlines on a property.

Liz Bishop, a friend of Mr Arthur, said he was "born and bred" in Melrose, and was a member of the local bowling club.

"I went to school with him. He was a very well-respected man, he was a quiet man," she said.

"I'm devastated, the community's devastated.

"He had a family, he had a wife and two daughters but, tragically, one of his daughters was killed in an accident a couple of years ago."

Mr Bishop said she once went for a flight in Mr Arthur's ultralight.

"It was pretty daunting when I first saw it," she said.

"I thought 'ooh I'm not going up in that', but once I got up in it, it was wonderful.

"I think, from memory, that he had been into aviation even before he went to Vietnam, so he had lots of flying experience.

"He was into bowls but he loved his flying."

Extracted from: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-04-12/air-crash-victim-geoff-arthur-remembered/6386712>

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