ACCELERATED STALLS

According to FAA Advisory Circular AC-61-67C, Stall and Spin Awareness Training, "Accelerated stalls can occur at higher-than-normal airspeeds due to abrupt and/or excessive control applications. These stalls may occur in steep turns, pullups, or other abrupt changes in flight-path. Accelerated stalls usually are more severe than unaccelerated stalls and are often unexpected because they occur at higher-than-normal airspeeds."

In this accident, the pilot was focused on making a tight right turn to the runway. When it became apparent there was a traffic conflict and the controller instructed him to "extend to follow the Cirrus out there on a mile final," the pilot attempted to comply with the instruction by adding power, pitching up and reversing his bank angle from right to left. As witnesses reported, this maneuver was conducted in an "abrupt" fashion, literally one of the textbook ways to enter an accelerated stall.

