

In Memoriam

James Synodinos

James Synodinos passed away on March 1st. He was a lifelong resident of the Baltimore area. Jim was an electrician and he owned Synodinos Associates, a commercial electrical contracting firm, which he closed in 2005 when he retired.

For most of his life, Jim was an antique car enthusiast and hobbyist. He had a passion for collecting and restoring high-end cars from the 1930s and 1940s. He did the restoration work himself and always looked to make the cars authentic, but fully functional and reliable so that they could be driven anywhere.

His collection had several marques: 1932 Buick model 8-91 Club Sedan, 1933 Cadillac V-12 Town Coupe, 1933 Plymouth 2-Door Coupe (which was his first car, bought when he was 16), 1941 Packard Super 8 160 Sedan, 1947 Packard Super 8 Clipper Sedan, and 1972 Pontiac Grand Prix coupe.

Jim joined the Chesapeake Region, AACA in 1992. Jim and Ruth were very active in support of the Club's



Jim & Ruth Synodinos in 2006

activities and events, attending many each year. He was elected to the Club's Board in 2007 as a Director-at-Large.

Jim also belonged to several national and local antique car clubs: Cadillac-LaSalle Club – Potomac Region; Buick Club of America – Buick Owners of Maryland (BOOM) chapter (where he was the Membership Chair); The Packard Club – Mid-Atlantic Packards; and the Classic Car Club of America – Chesapeake Bay Region, where he held leadership positions.

Touring with their cars, particularly the

1941 Packard, was an activity that both Jim and Ruth enjoyed. They participating on several domestic CCCA tours (called CARavans) cross-country in the US and regionally, and to Alaska. Their first CCCA tour in 1995 was a driving tour from Rhode Island to San Francisco and back.

In 2008 they went on the CCCA Classic Europe CARavan, which visited Switzerland, Germany, France, Austria, and Italy for 24 days. There were 22 classic cars on this tour with 53 participants. The Synodinos' '41 Packard was shipped from Dundalk, MD to Amsterdam for the CARavan. They flew from Newark, NJ to London and then Zurich. The car was picked up in Basil. The routes were mostly on back roads, and a few days the group traveled by tour bus because of congested road conditions. The tour included mountain crossings of the Alps and the Appenines, and a portion of the Autobahn.

Jim had a reputation as a mechanical go-to-guy, with the ability to fix almost any automotive problem. He carried an extensive inventory of parts when on

Continued on the next page >>



Jim's classic cars from the left: 1933 Cadillac V-12, 1947 Packard Super 8 Clipper, and 1932 Buick Club Sedan



On the 2008 Classic Europe CARavan, Jim gassing up the '41 Packard; the '41 Packard parked at two different stops

In Memoriam – continued
James Synodinos

long tours so that he could be of assistance to others. Many members of the clubs he belonged to remember Jim for his ability to diagnose and fix their cars on the road side; and his willingness and enthusiasm in doing so.



Jim's 1972 Pontiac Grand Prix, which he owned since new

Jim Synodinos is survived by his wife Ruth, two stepsons, Warren Dodge III

and David Dodge, and by four grandsons and two great-granddaughters

Jim was a personable antique car buff who enjoyed the hobby and made it more fun for everyone he touched. He will be missed by all of us.

Milton Douglas Hiteshew

Long-time Chesapeake Region member Milton Hiteshew passed away on February 17th. Milton, a Baltimore native, was one of 14 children and the eldest of five hemophiliac brothers.

The Hiteshew brothers were the subjects of extensive early genetic researchers including those at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

Milton had a long career as a draftsman at the Westinghouse Oceanic Division, where he designed and created circuit boards. After his retirement in 1992, he became interested in genealogy and traced the Hiteshew family to its origins

in Germany.

An automotive hobbyist, Milton restored two red and white Corvair convertibles, both of which won awards at local and regional shows. He joined the Chesapeake Region, AACA in 1987. Milton was also a member of the Vintage Chevrolet Club of America. He very much enjoyed participating each year in the Catonsville area Fourth of July Parade.

Milton Hiteshew is survived by his wife of 43 years, Carolyn; a son, Milton Douglas Hiteshew, Jr. of Woodland Park, CO; a daughter, Carrie DeBoy of Pasadena, MD; seven brothers: Richard Hiteshew of Catonsville, William Dorsey Hiteshew, Jr. of Joppa, John David Hiteshew of Catonsville, Stephen Hiteshew of Phoenix, AZ; Herbert Hiteshew and Walter Hiteshew, both of Arbutus; and Charles Hiteshew of Columbia; a sister, Louise Lawson of Ellicott City; and four grandchildren.

**First Annual
 Garage Tour**

Saturday, April 18, 2009

10 am to 2 pm

**Pre-Registration
 Required**

The Garage Tour will start at the Westminster Target parking lot, where info & directions will be given out. Registration is \$14 per person, which includes the dinner afterward at Bullock's

Send your payment (made out to Tom Kenney) and the names of attendees to:
 Chesapeake Region 2009 Garage Tour
 PO Box 178
 Hampstead, MD 21074

Tom Kenney: 410-239-7071 days,
 410-239-8197 nites, ez2c@qis.net

Deadline is Monday, April 13th



**Break Out of the
 Winter Blues
 Sign Up Now**

Look inside private garages in our area.

See antique cars & restoration projects, gas station & old auto signs, memorabilia, tools & layouts

