

AN AVANTI SOLD FOR GRATIS

By Dan Booth
Nostalgic Motor Cars

"Nostalgic's Born Reports", reveals a **1963 Avanti 63R-4803** that was sold by Studebaker for the total sum of **GRATIS** on 10-31-1963 How cool is that ?

Dan Booth has over 45 years of exclusive, hands on Avanti sales, service, collision and parts, not Studebaker cars or trucks, just 1963-1985 Avantis.

Sometimes when I pull the original Studebaker Avanti, or Avanti paperwork, to copy them for the "Nostalgic's Born Reports", very odd or unusual addition information shows up. It could be different rubber stamps, notations like " hood -very bad orange peel", " Tested on Rolls". A person's name, initial, etc or just plain something that's not on most of the original paper work. I thought you may be entertained by reading some fascinating information for 63R-4803

I could only conclude that it was some kind of severance pay for a former Studebaker Employee. It has always been rumored that Studebaker gave away cars as severance pay to employees. It also could have been some kind of winning prize for some kind of contest, though that's doubtful.

The original build sheet for 63R-4803 was written on 06/06/63, but no shipping date was in the date shipped box. It does have a rubber stamp of Aug 7-1963, which to the best of my knowledge is the final inspection date of the Avanti. The original dealer cost invoice has a date of 10/31/1963 and different code numbers that are unusual on the dealer cost invoices code #98 2% holdback \$81.80 credit, code #98 Warranty & service \$50.00 that was paid out to Muffler Inc. Llion N.Y. (see notation dated 10-31-1963 on bottom portion of pages. Code #99 tag with the name of Mrs. J Ferrucci 374 S. Washington St. Herkimer, N.Y. This same name and address appears in the dealers name and address section on the top of the page. The serial number has been changed to R 4803 from 63R-4803


1st document copy of our original build sheet was written on 06/06/63 with no final assembly date written in it's box, but does have a rubber stamp dated August 7-1963, which to the best of my knowledge is the final inspection date. Code #99 is not on this build sheet.

A Studebaker "selling zone" home office form, dated 10-31-63 with serial number R-4803 reiterates the name and address with the selling and delivered price of GRATIS.

Nostalgic's Born Report, Build Sheet

Continued next page

Document #2 is a copy of the original Dealer cost Invoice, dated 10/31/1963 with a dealer cost of \$3875.23, Code #99 is used with the name " Mrs. J Ferrucci, 374 S. Washington St., Merkimer, New York". Her name is also after the dealer's name. It also has some writing towards the bottom of the sheet " warranty & service \$50.00 to Muffler Inc. on 10-31-63



Studebaker
AUTOMOTIVE SALES CORP.
SOUTH BEND 27, INDIANA

FILE

H282

Zone	Dealer	Sales Order No.	Date
79	9903		10 31 63

Invoice No
13755

Dealer Name and Address
MRS J FERRUCCI
374 S WASHINGTON STREET
MERKIMER NEW YORK

Shipped To
ILION N Y

Bank or Finance Co.
APPROPRIATION 4 3526

Via

Description	Serial No.	Engine No.	Amount
R Q 3370 AVANTI	R 4003		3474.00
13 P 6302 AVANTI TURQUOISE			
14 923 TOV			178.85
17 AUTOMATIC FLOOR SHIFT			30.25
50 TWIN TRACTION			25.11
55 WHITE SIDEWALLS			10.30
63 FLEC WASH			54.60
72A RADIOGANT			12.96
X34 AC3286 LER			34.00
92 SERV RETAIL OLY		481-00-00	74.96
97 DISTRIBUTION & DELIVERY		481-00-00	818.00
98 2PERCENT HLDACK		8269-64-00	50.00
99 WARRANTY SERVICE		481-00-00	
99 TAG MRS J FERRUCCI 374 S WASHINGTON ST MERKIMER N Y			

10-31-63
CM-17649
Warranty + service 50.00
to Muffler Inc.
Ilion N.Y.

Make All Checks Payable to the Order of
STUDEBAKER CORPORATION
Check or bank draft received for merchandise covered by this invoice does not constitute payment and title to same does not pass until cash therefor is received by STUDEBAKER CORPORATION.

Total of Invoice
3875.23

Nostalgic's Born Report, Dealer Cost Invoice

Document #3 is the real puzzler, on a Studebaker Automotive Sales Corporation "Selling Zone" Home Office form, which gives the serial # R-4803 and a list of the options with the selling price of "Gratis".

I could only conclude that it was some kind of severance pay for a former Studebaker employee. It has always been rumored that Studebaker gave away cars as severance pay to employees.

FILE COPY

Studebaker
AUTOMOTIVE SALES CORPORATION
SOUTH BEND 27, INDIANA

H218

Invoice No. 13755

HOME OFFICE SELLING ZONE Date 10-31-63 PH

Sold To MRS. J. FERRUCCI Shipped To
374 S. WASHINGTON STREET
HERKIMER, NEW YORK

Order No.	Shipping Warehouse	VIA	Terms
Engine No.	Serial No.	Description	Net
	R-4803	R Q 3370 AVANTI 13 P 6332 AVANTI TURQUOISE 14 923 TQV 19 AUTOMATIC FLOOR SHIFT 50 TWIN TRACTION 55 WHITE SIDEWALLS 63 ELEC WASH 72A RADIO & ANT 84 AC 3286 L & R 92 SERVICE FOR RETAIL DELIVERY 97 DISTRIBUTION & DELIVERY 98 WARRANTY & SERVICE	*GRATIS*

Make All Checks Payable to the Order of STUDEBAKER CORPORATION.
 Check or bank draft received for merchandise covered by this invoice does not constitute payment and title to same does not pass until cash thereof is received by Studebaker Corporation.
 To receive consideration shortage Claims must be made within five days after receipt of shipments.

Nostalgic's Born Report, Home Office Selling Zone