AN AVANTI SOLD FOR GRATIS

"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?

By Dan Booth Nostalgic Motor Cars

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.

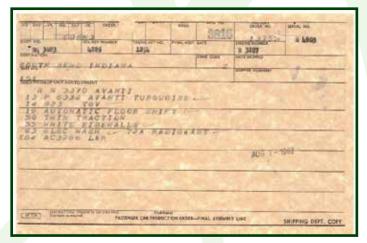
Sometimes when I pull the original Studebaker Avanti, or Avanti paperwork, to copy them for the "Nostalgic's Born Reports", very odd or unusual addition information shows up. It could be different rubber stamps, notations like "hood-very bad orange peel", "Tested on Rolls". A person's name, initial, 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

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

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.

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.

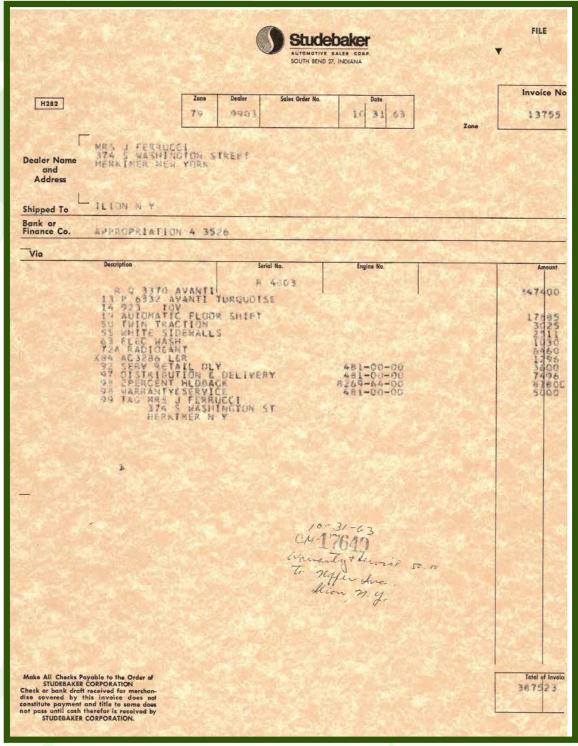
1st document copy of our original build sheet was written on 06/06/63 with no final assembly date written in it's box, but does have a rubber stamp dated August 7-1963, which to the best of my knowledge is the final inspection date. Code #99 is not on this build sheet.



Nostalgic's Born Report, Build Sheet

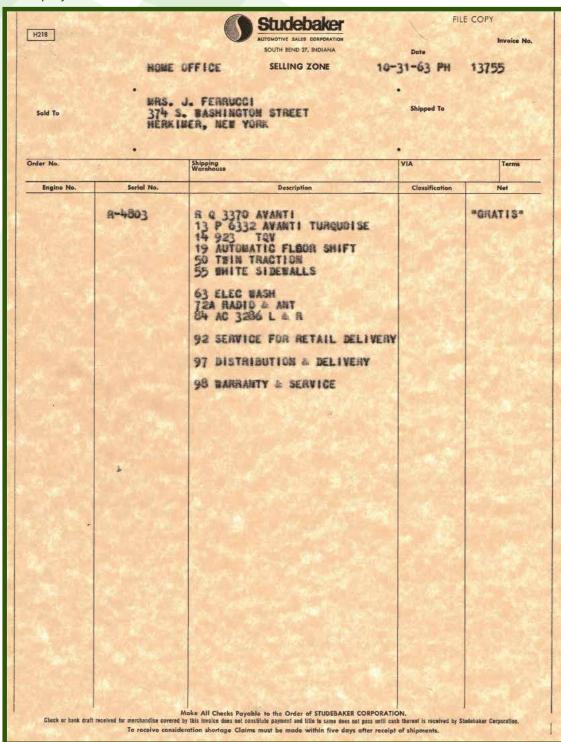
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Document #2 is a copy of the original Dealer cost Invoice, dated 10/31/1963 with a dealer cost of \$3875.23, Code #99 is used with the name "Mrs. J Ferrucci, 374 S. Washington St., Merkimer, New York". Her name is also after the dealer's name. It also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



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.



Nostalgic's Born Report, Home Office Selling Zone