



## John H. Ball

1935 ~ 2010

I don't recall when I first met John, but it had to have been at a Buick Club of America meet somewhere. He loved the organization, the car hobby in general and vintage Buicks in particular. He lived and breathed antique cars.

John made it a point not to stand out in the crowd when he was at a car show. That wasn't his style. He just went with the flow in his easy going manner, enjoying the cars and his friends, with a big smile on his face, and always ready to talk Buick history with anyone interested enough to listen.

He worked hard for the Buick hobby and the Buick Club of America, and he served several times on the BCA board of directors as a national officer. As much as John liked vintage Buicks and Buick people, he was probably the proudest of his collection of early vintage Buick literature and reference materials. He amassed an impressive collection over the years.

John was serving as a Buick Club Director during the pioneering efforts that led to the expansion of the Buick Heritage Alliance. His supporting voice and his votes on the board were highly significant and very helpful to the early growth of the BHA.

And he believed in what the Alliance stood for. Working with an estate planner, John saw to it that his Buick reference materials were bequeathed to the BHA when he passed away. His collection now forms an important part of the Alliance's permanent reference materials located at the AACA Library in Hershey.

John grew up in Glen Rock, New Jersey and graduated from Ridgewood High School in 1953. After spending many years in the New Jersey area, he moved first to Harrisburg and then to Newville, Pennsylvania. The closer to Hershey and Carlisle the better! Family vacations revolved around traveling with the various car clubs and he always owned a Buick of some vintage.

I'm going to miss John Ball. A lot of people will. When it came to old Buicks John did a lot more than just talk the talk. He walked the walk and the Buick hobby is a lot better today because he did.

~ Terry Dunham, BCA #217