

My Grandpa Fred Luithle's 1937 Buick Special Model 46 Business Coupe



The Buick was purchased on March 19, 1959 (as a Farm Car) from Charbonneau-Fridley Buick, Inc. in Dickinson, ND. At the same time my grandpa purchased a new 1959 Buick Electra for his 75th birthday. Between 1959 and 1962, I did farm chores with my grandpa and his 1937 Buick near Burt, ND.

Sometime in the 60's the brakes went out while bringing in the cows for milking time. It was then the Buick was put up on blocks. The tires and rims were put on the bale wagon.

On June 1, 1970, I purchased the Buick from my grandmother for \$1.00, not understanding the time and dollars it would take to restore it. I did a body off the frame restoration, starting out in parent's garage. With assistance from my father, Edwin Schneider and longtime neighborhood friend, Paul Sanders, helped me with the initial restoration. The Straight 8 Valve-in-Head 100 horsepower engine went through a complete rebuild by Hedahl's Machine Shop. Paul Boehm and Sandy McClean at Paul's Body Shop did the body prep and paint work. The original tire rims were retrieved from the hay wagon and Mylo Trusty completed the wheel pinstriping as it was originally. The car received all new glass and window channels. Tom Haider from Haider Glass completed the front window shield divider and assisted on a difficult vent window installation. The interior woodgraining for the dash, window garnishment and dash components were restored to the original style and color.

In the fall/winter of 2024-2025, with Ruben Straub's expertise and Susan Hammer-Schneider's assistance, they installed the Hampton Coach Mohair interior, which was identical to the original. Glen Billingsley completed installing new brakes, did mechanical repairs, and an engine tune-up.

Fifty-five years later, on May 27th, the Buick's 88th birthday, Susan and I took a nice drive around Bismarck.

