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Paul Newman car a shiny reminder of star's legacy

VANCOUVER, Wash. — Typical of those growing up in California during the '50s, Bud Bailey's obsession with cars started as a teen. The 14-year-old boy who inherited a 1933 Chevrolet sedan probably never dreamed he would own a car that once belonged to movie star/philanthropist/race car driver Paul Newman.

The 1977 308 Ferrari — once owned and driven by Newman — will be featured at this year's Touchmark Car Show. The eighth annual event is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 20 at 2911 S.E. Village Loop in east Vancouver. There is no charge for the show, but donations for Loaves & Fishes, the Meals on Wheels people will be accepted.

Along with more than 100 cars, there will be music, entertainment and a barbecue.

"We all have stories of growing up in the automobile generation, Bailey, 67, said. "Most baby boomers relate to the fantasy of cars, ones we had, ones we sold, and the ones we always wanted. Some of us have passed the fascination with cars to children and grandchildren. It is kind of hard to comprehend that a 1965 Chevelle is 50 years old. So, to car guys and gals, the cars of our youth speak to us still."

Bailey got to meet Newman during a car event shortly before the actor's death. Newman rarely signed autographs but did sign the Ferrari and talked about driving it, calling it "a beast."

Newman came to racing late in life, Bailey said and brought the same passion he had for acting and helping others.

"Mr. Newman, what can you say, except that he was a giant of a human being," Bailey said. "Unassuming, bigger than life and left behind a legacy in the Newman's Own brand that gives quietly to charities all over the country."

Touchmark Resident Relations Manager Kellie Wagnild coordinates the car show each year and says people tell her they are impressed with the variety of cars that are displayed each year. "People say this is one of the best car shows they've ever attended, and they keep returning. We're proud of the fact that we've been able to donate close to \$15,000 to Meals on Wheels People since we started the show."

Touchmark at Fairway Village is a full-service retirement community offering a wide range of retirement homes, lifestyle options and services, including an on-site health and fitness club for people age 40 and up. More information is available at Touchmark.com.

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