

The Richard "Tubby" Houston Collection
"You Can't Take it with you, But Tubby Tried!"

You hear that saying all the time, "You can't take it with you!" But for Richard, Tubby" Houston, he sure tried. Tubby was born in Oklahoma and was always a car guy. His first car he bought was a 38 Chevrolet Coupe. Giving him wheels and freedom. He married and the kids started coming. Just like a country song, they were living in a trailer out in the country. He had started his business and working to get it off the ground. His son remembers all those kids in that hot trailer. Packed on top of each other. Tubby was working and while in town he stopped in to visit with one of his friends and buy some tires. His friend, said he was going to move and sell his house. Tubby was always dealing and he said, "Well, what you want for it." He bought the house. He went home and told the family, "Pack'er Up, I bought a house." It was a brick house on the edge of town, a real house. Tubby's wife, was very happy and made sure that the house was always clean. But, she sure couldn't change Tubby. Tubby started an asphalt paving company in 1974 and worked all the way up to almost his death. Tubby always had a trailer hooked to his truck and made a point to try and bring something home every day. He loved GMC pickups and Ford Cars and Trucks. He would make a deal while working a job and load it up and proudly display his new purchase right in the front yard of his wife's treasured house. Rick, his son, says that it was like bringing a deer home after hunting. People would stop and try to buy it or ask about it. To Tubby, he just loved to talk about cars, and this was his way of luring in conversation and maybe another deal.

Rick, starting working with his Dad in the business, and he always was a bit frustrated with Tubby, because he would trade a job for another treasure. Rick would say, "Dad, I got bills to pay. WE can't keep traded work for cars." The cars and pickups kept piling up, and Tubby started buying more real estate to put his acquisitions. Occasionally, the city zoning would get on his about the cars and he would just buy another piece of real estate and move some over there. Tubby would sell some cars and occasionally, but rarely, parts. But if you asked him for a price, you'd better pay that price and right away. For if you wanted to, "Think about it," well, you were wasting his time. If you came back the next day or even just 1 hour, well it wasn't for sale anymore.

Tubby would go to auctions, swap meets, and with his business got the tour of the area. Over his 72 years, he accumulated over 500 vehicles. Some of them were sold earlier and now more of them will be sold. Tubby still had a trailer hooked to his pickup, the day that he died. He still had dreams of buying more. His family now are working on the vast task of settling the estate and will sell a large portion of Tubby's collection. The collection has something for everyone. Ford, Chevrolet, GMC, Cadillac, and more. Cars, pickups, and including rare vehicles like a 1950 Ford Woody Wagon, 1950 Ford Convertibles, and more.

VanDerBrink Auctions, LLC will sell Tubby's collection at No Reserve May 19th, 2018 at 10AM in Stillwater, Oklahoma. The collection will be sold NO Reserve and there is everything from pickups, cars, trucks that are for rod, restore, and parts. Bidders will also to be able to take parts and leave the bodies. There are also Drivers, survivors, and many project vehicles. Preview will be May 17th & 18th, 2018 from 10 to 6 each day. The auction kicks off On-Site in Stillwater, Oklahoma with online bidding also available. Besides the vehicles is an assortment of parts. This is going to be fun and be like Tubby and bring home one of his collection on your trailer. For more info check the website www.vanderbrinkauctions.com or VanDerBrink Auctions, LLC 605-201-7005, See you at the Auctions.

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