

# The John Lewis Collection Auction

## "A Walk-Through Time"

### Amazing & Rare Pre-War Trucks & Cars Collection

Oklahomans are a determined, tough bunch, and John Lewis was no exceptions. Growing up during the Dirty 30's, John saw first-hand how it took determination and sheer will to survive. He was raised by his Momma and watched her save and work hard to raise him and his siblings. Money was tight, and he learned the value of hard work and knew that these lessons learned would help him get a head in the future. Having a mere education, John was determined to make something of himself. He joined the Navy in 1943 when he was a teenager. He took pride that he was one of the youngest ones in the Submarine Pintado, tough Okie. He took pride in his years in the Navy and was proud of their missions during WWII and sinking many Japanese ships. John got out of the service and worked as a fireman and electrician. It was here that he learned his skills and started Industrial Electric and built a thriving business, in Lawton, Oklahoma. He got married, the kids came, and for him, these were little helpers in his hobbies. With his businesses, thriving it allowed him to buy those vintage cars and trucks that he saw and loved as a kid. The Brass Era or Pre-War Cars and Trucks were his favorite, especially Fire Trucks. Being a Fireman, he had a fondness for old fire trucks and what they represented-saving lives and helping people. John married Jane, after an introduction from their daughter. She remembers praying to the Lord "Send me a man, that needs my time." Well you can say God answered that prayer. John kept his wife Jane's Calendar Book full of traveling all over the U.S. for Rare Trucks and cars. They filled the pickup and trailer to the brim like a bunch of Hillbillies. They would bring home their treasures and John and his mechanic, Raymond Jet, would bring them back to life.

**It gave Mr. Lewis joy, to see something that time had forgotten and was broken brought back to life. The sound of those old engines humming again instead of gathering dust.**

John was good at getting people, especially his family, to do things. He would call up the kids and grandkids when they would be close to home after a trip on the road gathering Trucks and Cars. Next thing you know, he would have them washing cars and helping fix them, too. Everybody was involved in his love of the cars and trucks. There were parades, drives, and well mostly help when he would come home with a trailer full of treasures. John also raised cattle and had several farms and many other hobbies. He was full of life and he made sure everyone had fun, and of course while working with his collection. Soon the collection out grew the garage at home and he built the Museum where they are all housed now. Over 100 at one time, he would have them arranged and set up with his other collections of saddles, Indian artifacts, fossils, and more collectibles. John would host Barb-Quees for Customers and also there were special functions at the Museum. They never got the museum officially open to the public, but John would show people by appointment. Being a fireman, John loved the old firetrucks and there are MANY in his collection. The collection has everything from an early Horse drawn Fire Cart, 1915 White Fire Truck, to a 1946 American LaFrance Ladder Truck. Most all are restored with originals. John things that were unique and the collection has an earle collection of Hearses. There is an ornate 1888 Sayers & Scoville horse drawn hearse to a Rare 1928 Henney Hearse, Fake bodies included. John was always up for a joke and make people laugh and wanted to make sure everyone was having a good time. Most all the collection is Pre-War-Brass and Nickle Era Cars and Trucks. A 1927 Rolls Royce Phantom II Landaulet Coach and other Limos are waiting to go back in service. A 1914 Ford Model T Speedster is beautifully restored and looks like it's ready for the Great Race. There is an assortment of White, Mack, Dodge Brothers, Packard, REO Speedwagon, and International C-Cab Trucks and Deliveries. A Rare 1925 Mack Truck with Airplane Engine Testing Equipment installed makes you wonder what the Government was testing. For the parades, John has an assortment of Coupes, Sedans, and Touring Cars including a 1914 Studebaker, among others. John was always hunting for the rare trucks and cars and one of his favorites and biggest challenges to buy was a 1925 White Bus. The 1925 White Bus is decked out in yellow and with Yellowstone lettering ready for a tour. One of the other rarities in the collection is a 1910 Knox Truck. The truck appears original, but the original engine is replaced with a 1950's HEMI and theatre seats added to the bed. That must have been a wild ride. The collection grew and John got sick and soon he realized he wasn't going to have a lot of time. He didn't want to burden his family with this enormous collection he built and sold the collection in its entirety to a couple of men in Lawton, Oklahoma. Jane told Yvette VanDerBrink of VanDerBrink Auctions, "It was hard to let go, but it was also a blessing not to have to figure out what to do with all those Rare Trucks and Cars, and other collections." Now It's your chance to get one of these Rare pieces of American history. This is just one of several auctions that will liquidate this enormous collection.



**VanDerBrink Auctions, LLC** will sell the John Lewis Collection on October 21st, 2017 at 9:30 at the museum at 816 SE 1st, ST. in Lawton, Oklahoma. It will be a celebration of Automotive history and Mr. Lewis's collection. The entire collection will be Sold No Reserve, to the highest bidder. This will be your chance to get one of these Rare Pre-War Trucks and Cars. Preview will be Friday October 20th with a Social and Bar-B-Que that Evening for Bidders. Come on out and grab your piece of the amazing Lewis Collection. If you can't come to the Auction on-line bidding will be available. Besides the Trucks and Cars, there is memorabilia, collectibles, parts and other items. There is even a water mine and bear trap along with Approx. 80 Rare, Vintage Trucks, Fire Trucks, Buses, and Cars. Now is the only time that you may be able to find these rare pieces of automotive history. So, plan to attend the John Lewis Collection Auction. For more info, Online bidding, Catalog, and other great auctions Call VanDerBrink Auctions **605-201-7005** or [www.vanderbrinkauctions.com](http://www.vanderbrinkauctions.com). **See you at this Amazing Auction!**

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