

Finding Automotive Gems in an Oil Boom- The Sagaser Collection Auction

The Bakken Formation is one of the most important oil and gas discoveries in recent history. Paul Sagaser graduated with a degree in Geology in 1982 from NDSU and right at the beginning of the first oil boom in North Dakota. Paul jumped right into his career searching for oil and gas for oil companies. But Paul wasn't only looking for oil for his customers, but his job gave him the perfect opportunity to find automotive gems. Paul spent many miles driving around Montana, Western North Dakota, and Canada looking for oil and gas formations. Paul especially liked searching in the winter, cause those old cars would be gems waiting for an Ole' Rockhound to pick up and add to his collection. Paul's first car was a 1964 Chevrolet, but he was partial to Mopars. Plymouth, Dodge, and Chrysler cars were the treasures he was seeking the most. Road Runners, Cudas, Chargers, and even early 1930's Plymouths, Dodge, and Chrysler. But little did he know he would soon find another gem, his wife Holly.

Holly ran into her old schoolmate, and she fixed her up with a date with Paul. He was a tall man with flannel shirt, jeans, and a sense of humor. On their first date, he took her to a motorcycle show in Minot, ND and well, they hit it right off. Holly was the most valuable gem he found, she just sparkled. He took her on a motorcycle and camping trip rock hunting in Montana, and car, and she found a 4ct Garnet right away. They got home and he told his brother that she passed the "wifey test." Paul had found a Montana Saffire and made her wedding ring. Paul also took that Garnet and made her a necklace. Paul loved to make Holly jewelry that sparkled like her. On their honeymoon they traveled to the west coast and to the ocean.

The kids and family came, and they bought their farm south of Epping, North Dakota. Paul was busy with geology and finding automotive gems and lining them up in the field waiting for Paul to buff and restore them. Paul just NEVER wanted anything to go to the crusher and would rescue cars. That's history! The Sagasers started a restoration shop, and the boys helped and learned the love of old cars from their dad. Together, the whole family worked to save and restore those automotive gems. Paul would find the old cars and keep bringing home his treasures and lining them up waiting for their time to be polished. The field got fuller and fuller with over 300 vehicles. Mostly Mopar, but Chevrolet, International, and more. Paul realized it was easier to bring them home than sell them, and not logically and not enough time to restore them all. So, Paul would occasionally sell cars, but he would carefully vet the buyers to make sure they were going to "Good Car Guys" and not going to Derby them. So many people would stop by and want to walk through this Field of Dreams, as he would call his collection.

The Sagaser Family took their MOPARS to car shows in the area and enjoyed Mopars in the Park. Paul was still an avid motorcycle rider and went to a Club meeting on his Harley Davidson. He was coming home and north of the home place his bike got sideways on the railroad tracks, and he was in an accident with a train. The Sagaser family was devastated. They sold a few cars but just could not bring themselves to sell the collection. Now after several years, Holly and the boys have decided to sell the collection, this field of dreams. The boys are keeping some of the collection, their cars they restored with their Dad, and also realize that the cars, this field of dreams, needs to go to other car collectors and let them finish the polishing and restored of the automotive gems that Paul found.

VanDerBrink Auctions will sell the Sagaser Collection with Approx. 300 Classic cars and parts in a LIVE Onsite auction with Online bidding on June 7th, 2025. There is everything from restored cars, projects, and cars for rod and parts. There is also an assortment of engines from 392 HEMIs to B Body parts and more. There are several 1965 Dodge Coronet 500's, a 1969 Charger that's a project and rows of Dodge D100 Pickups, panels, and even a Rare Swept side Pickup. The field shows its progression of collecting gems and has rows of 1930-40's Mopars, a row of 1957-60 Finned Mopars, Furies, Chargers, Darts, and Much more. Tucked in the mix are Chevrolets, a few Fords, and even some Internationals, and Pontiacs. There will be a preview on June 6th, and the auction kicks off early on June 7th in 1 big day. You won't want to miss this Automotive "Field of Dreams" as Paul called his collection. Catalog, Pictures, Video, and more info at www.vanderbrinkauctions.com. We will see you at the auction!