

Outstanding in His Field... The Tom Minnick Collection

Growing up on a farm, Tom Minnick learned hard work and skills that would take him far in life and set him apart, well, outstanding in his field. Tom Minnick grew up on a farm in Lock Springs, Missouri on the family farm. Tom worked hard on the farm and had a vision of taking his farming skills on to college for Agronomy and also served in the Army. Tom's career started as a hobby but turned into a successful business. Tom worked for Frontier Seeds for over 20 years and developed and patented several hybrids including Sweetie 82 which was a super sweet, sweet corn. Just like the Hybrids that he created, Tom was outstanding in his field.

Growing up on a farm, you didn't throw away anything because you never knew when you'd need spare parts for a project or to fix a piece of farm equipment. When Tom was in High School, his first car was a 1964 Pontiac GTO. To Tom, Pontiacs were the Cream of the Crop- outstanding in it's field. As the business grew, Tom was able to further his hobby with classic cars and bought hundreds of projects and cars through the years, especially those Pontiacs. Tom could talk to anyone and this opened the door to many car deals and well, Tom never passed up a car if it was a good deal. Tom was a larger than life. Tom always had a joke and word of the day and could be seen at auctions or polishing chrome in his shop with a Big Ole' Cigar hanging out of his smile. With his larger-than-life laugh, you couldn't miss Tom. Tom bought and sold many cars and went to hundreds of auctions. Tom was looking for someone to help him with his cars and met Jerry over 20 years ago and they traveled to the US to look and buy cars.

When he was doing seed sales, Tom met a Hybrid he couldn't pass up, Edna Minnick. Together they started their adventure and working together in the seed sales. Edna was a car gal, and Tom and Edna traveled to pick up cars and go to auctions. Tom was old fashioned with his Cigar and flip phone, but when the internet came around it put Tom's Car game to a new level. Edna remembers Tom saying, "I'm looking for a 1970 Pontiac". They would find one online and then Edna and Tom or Jerry would hook up the trailer and off to get their latest purchase. Pontiacs were Tom's favorite, but if there was money to be made on a deal, Tom wasn't going to pass it up. Edna remembers so many trips with a trailer around SW US and many pickup conversations and trips. With Tom, there was always a deal to get and a project in the shop. Edna could always find Tom in the shop talking cars with friends and yes, usually polishing chrome with that big cigar in his smile and his contagious laughter filling the shop.

Tom Started to have some health issues but didn't let that stop him from building cars and finding treasures. Tom passed away and Edna was left with selling the Seed company and deciding to let their collection sell to other collectors to enjoy or finish. Tom's loved Pontiacs and Classics along with hundreds of parts and more. Tom's friend and business partner Kim and Jerry started the task of getting things together and getting ready for an auction.

VanDerBrink Auctions LLC will sell the collection of Pontiac Classic Cars, parts, tools, and more from the Tom Minnick collection. March 29th, 2025, at 9:30 the auction will be at Tom's Shop in Wickenburg, AZ. The auction will be live onsite with online bidding for vehicles and other items. Tom's collection of Pontiac Cars includes a restored 1968 and 1970 Pontiac GTO's and a field of Pontiacs that were in line to be restored. The collection also has a 1969 HEMI Roadrunner Clone Project. Their personal vehicles including a 2013 Cadillac Escalade and RAM

Pickup. There are hundreds of Pontiacs and more parts that are only for onsite bidders. Information, catalog, and more can be seen at www.vanderbrinkauctions.com. So, plan now and we will see you at the auction and you bid on Tom's Pontiac's, it was his Cream of the Crop.