



PHOTO TRIVIA ANSWER – WINTER, 2018



King of the _____? Who is this guy and why does he look happy to be crowned?

Parker Bohn is smiling here because he is being crowned King of the Modifieds for the 1953 season at Wall Stadium. He used consistent top finishes and two feature wins to become “King” that season.

It’s interesting to note that also in 1953, Bohn also won three features at Wilmington Speedway in Delaware, a 1/3 mile track intentionally built similarly to Wall Stadium. His efforts at Wilmington that season brought him a Modified Championship there as well. He finished 15th in overall points standings in NASCAR’s Modified division in that year.

For those who are not familiar with Parker Bohn’s racing career, here’s a synopsis: Bohn, a resident of Freehold, NJ, started racing in 1950 at age 37 at Long Branch (NJ) Stadium in a 1937 Ford coupe #52 that he built with his cousin Fred Lange. Four feature events later, he captured his first checkered flag. The cousins would go on to win over 100 events all over NJ and Wilmington.

Bohn is most often associated with the black and white #659 owned by Tom Skinner of Hammonton, NJ. The two teamed up in 1961 at Vineland (NJ) Speedway. They remained a team for the next 17 years, running in the Sportsman division of NASCAR and Wall Stadium. The #659 was no ordinary Sportsman car. Skinner himself made the heads for the 6-cylinder engine. Race fans (and fellow competitors) recall the engine had a distinctive sound as Bohn raced to the checkered flag. They had a strong car and a strong driver, which made for a successful team. At Wall Stadium, they were the Sportsman points champs from 1965 through 1968 and in 1973. Not only that, the team often ran the Sportsman car against Modifieds with bigger V-8 engines.

Bohn was not just a good Sportsman driver; he was also a good sportsman. Many folks remember that night at Old Bridge (NJ) Stadium in 1957 when, after an accident interrupted the feature, he got out of his car and pulled fellow driver Pete Frazee free of his burning racer, saving Frazee’s life. For his heroism, Bohn received the Dr. Ray N. Sabourin Award for Outstanding Sportsmanship.

It’s interesting to note that March 26, 1994 was declared Parker Bohn Day in his hometown of Freehold. Also in 1994, the GSVSCC presented Parker and his wife Barbara with their Founders Award.

After many exciting adventures in racing, Bohn ended his career in 1978. He and Barbara continued to go to Wall Stadium, as he and Skinner sold Hoosier racing tires there into the 1990s.

Several of Parker and Barbara's children have also been involved in racing: son Eddie enjoyed a career in racing (and *his* sons Andrew and Danny are racers) as well as their son-in-law Harold Dauncey, married to their daughter Barbara Ann. Their daughter Donna is married to former Wall Stadium and Evergreen/Mountain Speedway (PA) driver Jim Hinton. Daughter Diane is married to Art Wolcott, Wall racer from the 1970s/80s. Their son Parker Bohn III has enjoyed a successful career as a professional bowler for over 30 years.

The racing world lost quite a character and quite a racer in Parker Bohn on July 13, 2008, when he passed away at the age of 90.

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