

BUSTER & ELAINE GROVER

DRIVERS / PIONEERS



When it was announced that Wiscasset Speedway would be starting a Hall of Fame, one of the first and most frequent names to be tossed into consideration from the track's loyal fanbase was Buster Grover. Ernest "Buster" Grover was born in Wiscasset on 1929 and started his racing career driving a 39' Ford at Beech Ridge in 1950, winning the very first race he ran in. He soon took a break from racing to serve in the U.S. Army in the Korean conflict, eventually getting back into a car in 1964. He teamed up with car owner Bob Kimmich to build a 56 Ford to race the Sportsman class at Unity and Arundel, with limited success. A change was made in 1969 when Wiscasset Speedway opened, sponsor Strong Chevrolet helped Buster into a fast 57 Chevy. He was already familiar with the track as he had helped Wilford Cronk design it over the previous few years. Buster and his team took no prisoners and grabbed 8 feature wins and the Sportsman championship in Wiscasset's first season. He continued racing and winning for many years at Wiscasset and Unity Raceway driving for Strong and then Dick Giles. His final checkered flag came when he was 60 years old, winning the final triple crown race that season. Buster passed away in 2011 at the age of 82. He wasn't the only member of the family turning fast laps at Wiscasset. Besides his brother Merle, his wife Elaine took a shine to the track as well. She was a pioneer in her own right, starting off in powder puff races, but then became the first woman to race head to head with the men. While she found some success at Wiscasset, some track's those days wouldn't let women in the pits at all, let alone actually race against the guys. Buster and Elaine's son Dan followed in their footsteps, taking over the family business and racing a long and successful career himself.