

Ted Harbit, May 05, 1935 – August 23, 2025

R.I.P.



It is with sad hearts that we announce the passing one of the greatest promoters of Studebaker performance who continually pursued the maximum horsepower of what can be attained from the only V8 engine that Studebaker Corporation manufactured in various displacements from 1951 through 1964. Most likely the greatest promotor of racing Studebakers is Ted Harbit, owner of many Studebakers that were either modified to race, or run 'straight out of the box' like his 1963 Lark Custom 2-door sedan in the above photo. Over the years, Ted lived a second life as an NHRA Hall of Fame race car driver, setting records and winning national titles until he was 88 years of age. He and his 1950 'Chicken Hawk' Starlight Coupe were legends in Studebaker circles. Above is a photo taken of him at the 2007 International Meet at the Ocala Dragstrip, which also graced the cover of Issue #38 of Jet Thrust News.

Also In Memoriam since our last issue:

Joe Bacon, April 1st, 1952—May 28, 2025

James Kranik, April 18, 1949—July 11, 2025

May we extend our condolences to all the families of Jet Thrust Studebaker owners who have passed away since 2024.