

In Memoriam

Norman Nock

It is with much sorrow that we announce the passing of Norman Nock, a lifetime member of both the Austin Healey Club of America and Austin Healey Club USA. He passed away on April 13, 2010, at home, surrounded by his family.

As a teenager in Birmingham, England, Norman served his apprenticeship with Lucas in the racing division, and had the honor of working on Juan Fangio's V16 BRM racecar, keeping the complicated ignition system working smoothly.

He went to Canada as the Lucas representative. While there, Norman met and married his wife Shona. In 1957, they moved to San Francisco where he opened his first shop in 1958.

Norman's first Healey was a BN4 that he used as a daily driver up until 1968. In 1971, Norman had the opportunity to open a new British car dealership, so he packed up his family, which now included son David, and daughter Sheila, and the business, and moved to Stockton, California, where he opened British Car Specialists, which remains an ongoing and successful business.

In 1979, he purchased a worn-out 1956 BN2 that he and Shona restored at home. They drove this car to many Healey meets all over the Western United States, putting on over 100,000 miles. Norman also restored a 1962 BN7 Tri Carb at home, putting many miles on that car as well.

As the production of new British sports cars came to an end, Norman put all of his efforts into keeping the cars that he loved so much on the road, so that everyone could enjoy them. Norman shared his knowledge willingly with everyone, writing numerous technical articles and even producing his own book of the collection of these articles. You could always expect a large audience at one of Norman's many tech sessions.



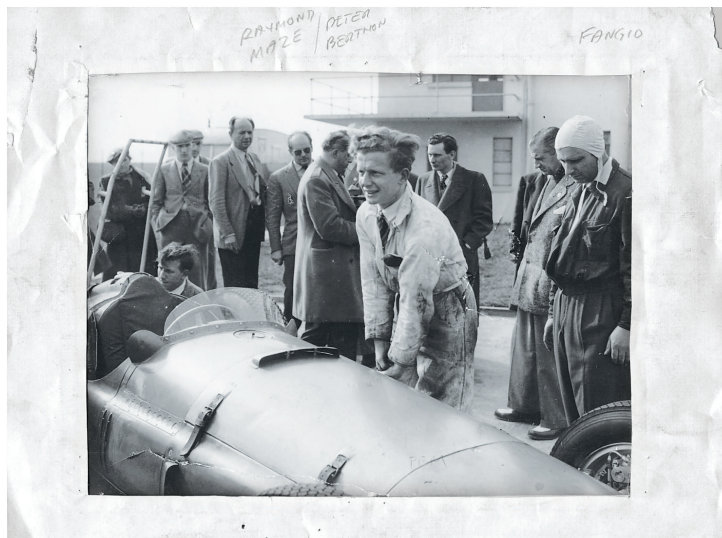
Norman with his wife, Shona, in their BN2 at Rendezvous in 2009

Norman stayed active right up until the end, riding his bike, snow skiing, playing the piano, and along with Shona, playing an active role in Healey events. He was never too far from his beloved Healeys or from his loving wife, children, grandchildren Andrew, Jennifer, and Laura, and great-grandchildren Dylan, Benjamyn, and William. His children, David and Sheila, will continue his legacy at British Car Specialists in Stockton, California.

Norman added immeasurably to so many lives. He will be missed for his friendship, his readiness to help, and for his willingness to share his vast knowledge.

*Memorial donations may be made in Norman's name to:
Hospice of San Joaquin
3888 Pacific Ave.
Stockton, CA 95204*

A proud moment, working on the BRM of Juan Manuel Fangio (in white helmet).



In his element, teaching a Tech Session at Rendezvous

