

Olle Wilson

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A Celebrity-Owned Riviera

STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES
 VALIDATED REGISTRATION CARD

SMOG DATE ISSUED YEAR TYPE LICENSE NUMBER
 04/04/69 1969 11 YWB702

ENGINE OR ID NUMBER

494879H906468

MAKE MO.
 BUICK 76

AUTOMOBILE

B T2
M M K2
E

DIRR-141-01R
21220

PAGE1
21220

BODY TYPE MODEL CYLS. DATE FIRST SOLD CLASS * YR YR MODEL TYPE VEH. MP
 CP49487 08 03/06/69 BD 69 110

AX WC UNLADEN WEIGHT TAB NUMBER TOTAL FEES
 8514900 \$80

SINATRA FRANK WAYNE JR
 2230 FOX HILLS DR APT 5
 LOS ANGELES CALIF

1900 4

CITY NATL BK
 400 N ROXBURY DR
 BEVERLY HILLS CALIF

WF
RF
LF
01
02
03
TOTAL FEES
RT. CLK.

YEAR MODEL, IF ANY, SHOWN ON THIS CERTIFICATE IS BASED ON MANUFACTURER AND DEALER REPRESENTATIONS. THIS REGISTRATION EXPIRES MIDNIGHT DECEMBER 31ST, AND SHALL BE RENEWED ANNUALLY. READ REVERSE SIDE - IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

TA 9400356

I have always dreamed of owning top-of-the-line Buicks and the opportunity came in 2022 when a 1969 Riviera became available here in Sweden. The advertisement stated that the original owner was Frank Sinatra Jr., from Los Angeles, CA. Sinatra's prior ownership was interesting but not as much of an attraction as the beauty of the car. The car was painted Deep Gray Mist, a "Riviera only" color, with no vinyl top. The upgraded interior was a black vinyl Strato vinyl bench. The car was loaded with power options, including deluxe wheel covers and cornering lights. But soon after the purchase, I began to wonder if the documents that came with the car would confirm that Frank Sinatra Jr.'s prior ownership could be true.

The documents in the car included a new vehicle warranty and protection plan with an attached plate that indicated that the car was delivered on 9/27/68 to Lauesen Buick Company on Sepulveda Boulevard in Los Angeles. The warranty card indicated the car was sold on 03/06/69 to Frank Wayne Sinatra Jr. Also

WE ALL KNOW THAT OUR RIVIERAS DO NOT HAVE TO BE OWNED BY CELEBRITIES TO BE APPRECIATED. THEY ARE CELEBRITIES IN THEIR OWN RESPECT.

AUTHORIZED SELLING DEALER PLATE IMPRINT

LAUREN BUICK COMPANY 21-202
 1656 S. SEPULVEDA BLVD. BUICK
 W. LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

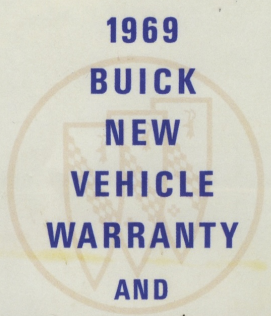
VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER OR OWNER AND VEHICLE PROTECT-O-PLATE IMPRINT

24-303 F.W. SINATRA, JR.
 2230 FOX HILLS DR.
 9-27-68 LOS ANGELES, CAL
 678 LL 494879H706168
 D050 PM 9
 BT251

Date Vehicle First Placed in Service of Original Retail Sale (Service Date if Applicable) *9.1.27.68*

NOTICE TO SECOND PURCHASER

The second retail purchaser of the Vehicle identified by the Vehicle Identification Number shown above may apply for a Protect-O-Plate entitling him to any unexpired portion of the Warranty coverage for a fee of \$25 through an authorized Buick dealer. Application must be made within 30 days or 1,000 miles of Vehicle usage, whichever first occurs, following the date of purchase, and the dealer must inspect the Vehicle and advise Buick that it has received the required maintenance. The second purchaser, upon issuance of the Protect-O-Plate, will be required to pay the first \$25 on each repair or replacement of warranted power train components made during the period between the expiration of the 12 months/12,000 miles coverage and the 5 years/50,000 miles coverage.



1969 BUICK NEW VEHICLE WARRANTY AND OWNER PROTECTION PLAN

IMPORTANT

The Buick New Vehicle Warranty and Owner Protection Plan herein apply to the Buick vehicle identified by the Vehicle Identification Number shown on the back of this folder.

THIS FOLDER, ALONG WITH THE PROTECT-O-PLATE FURNISHED WITH YOUR VEHICLE, MUST BE KEPT WITH THE VEHICLE AT ALL TIMES and made available to an authorized Buick Dealer if warranty work becomes necessary. THE FOLDER AND THE PROTECT-O-PLATE MUST REMAIN WITH THE VEHICLE AT TIME OF RESALE.

Part No. 1230330

VEHICLE IDENT. OWNER IDENT. LOCATE OWNER FIRST NAME OR INITIAL HERE

24-303 F.W. SINATRA, JR.
 2230 FOX HILLS DR.
 9-27-68 LOS ANGELES, CAL
 678 LL 494879H706168
 D050 PM 9
 BT251

DEALER INSTRUCTIONS
 Imprint owner information on reverse lettering plastic tape as shown below. Affix to blank metal plate at top of card.

Dealer Code	Owner Name
Street	<i>SINATRA YWB702</i>
Delivery Date	City, State
<i>9-27-68</i>	

PART NO. 1231760

OFFICIAL WARRANTY STATION
 DELCO BENDIX MOTOROLA

Chips Auto Radio
 "CAR RADIOS ONLY"

3775 OVERLAND AVE.
 AT VENICE
 LOS ANGELES, CALIF. 90034
 VERMONT 7-8121

*STEVED
 2151
 BY Chuck
 Mansfield
 Mark CARKLEY 11-25-68*





**The 1969 Riviera, Series 49400, V-8, #49487, 4,199 lbs,
52,872 produced, listed at \$4,701.**

included was an original registration form issued by the California DMV, on 04/04/69, to Frank Wayne Sinatra Jr. at Fox Hill Drive in Los Angeles on a 1969 Buick. The VIN in the documentation matched the plate at the base of the windshield as well as the number stamped on the left side of the engine. Lauesen Buick Company was located less than two miles from Sinatra's address. Further research indicated that the car arrived in Sweden in 2016. I reached out to several of the past owners to ask about its history. They confirmed that the documents in the car were there when they purchased it. Then I contacted Eric Ravikio in New Jersey, who owned the car before it was exported to Sweden. I told him about the documents, and he confirmed that they were also there when he owned it.

When I removed the radio to get it repaired, I found a business card from "Chips Auto Radio" in Los Angeles. On the back of the card was a scribed note that read, "Stereo inst. by Chuck Mansfield and Mark Oakley 11-25-68." This date was after the car was delivered to the dealership and before the delivery to Sinatra.

Interestingly, Lauesen Buick was known to have sold Buicks to Hollywood celebrities such as Leonard Nimoy, who played Mr. Spock in *Star Trek*. The dealership was just a stone's throw from the Culver City Studio that produced many of the early classic movies. Frank Sinatra Sr. was, as we know, also an actor in many movies during these years, and his favorite restaurant, "Dear John," was located near the Culver Studios at the



crossing of Sepulveda and Culver Boulevards, close to Lauesen Buick. Could it be possible that Frank Sinatra Jr., after lunch with his father, went out to buy a new Buick Riviera in 1969? We do not know, but if any readers have more information about this car's history, I would appreciate hearing from you.

Regardless of the Sinatra connection, we all know that our Rivieras do not have to be owned by celebrities to be appreciated. They are celebrities in their own respect. 🍷