



HORSE-DRAWN FUNERAL, CIRCA 1908

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FLXIBLE FOLLIES: A 1950 BUICK STORY

THE PROFESSIONAL CAR

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COVER PHOTO – Most of us are too young to remember horse-drawn funeral and ambulance equipment. Too few of these reminders of a colorful bygone era remain in museums and private collections today. PCS President John Ehmer came up with this interesting photo of a typical horse-drawn funeral of the early 1900s. Date and location are unknown, but the photo was snapped by a W. J. Fitzpatrick. In the photo, the casket is being loaded into the hearse following a church service. The light-gray hearse of undetermined manufacture is of the eight-column, carved-panel style. Note the smooth mosque-deck roof, large coach lamps and double rear doors. The undertaker's assistant, wearing a lap robe, is perched on the lofty driver's seat. Note also the fine pair of dapple-gray horses pulling the hearse. Thanks, John, for another great photo.

INSIDE BACK COVER – Ambulance aficionado Steve Loftin sent us this nifty color photo postcard a few years ago. It shows the ambulance department at the Wolfington Body Company, a major Superior Coach Corp. distributor located in Exton, Pa., near Philadelphia. Most of the ambulances visible in this photo are 1969 and 1970 Superior Cadillacs and Pontiacs, but in the right foreground are two just-delivered 1971 Superior Cadillac hightops. Look closely and you'll also see a few Chevrolet Suburban and modular ambulances in the background.

BACK COVER – Driving an ambulance has always been a hazardous occupation. Ambulance crews are constantly exposed to danger as they speed through city streets on their missions of mercy. The PCS' *Ohio Chapter* sent in this photo of an accident in Columbus, O. in the early 1950s. The Egan & Ryan Funeral Home's 1940 LaSalle ambulance rests on its roof after being broadsided at an intersection. Remarkably, there were no serious injuries in this spectacular crash.