

The **PROFESSIONAL** *CAR*



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COVER PHOTO - We originally planned to use Northland Chapter member Tony Karsnia's 1968 Miller-Meteor Cadillac Combination as the subject for our regular *Owner's Pride* feature in this issue, but when we received his professional-grade, calendar-quality portrait of his 1968 Miller-Meteor Cadillac Combination, we decided it was good enough to use as a cover photo. Our only dilemma: with or without the removable landau panels? In the end we opted for the latter, with the car configured for ambulance service. By sheer coincidence, at almost the same time we received Ohio member Bernie DeWinter's story about a little-known feature found in all Miller-Meteor combinations. Bernie's story made an excellent companion piece to Tony's story. For much of the last century, the dual-purpose combination coach was the professional car of choice for smaller funeral homes which simply could not afford two costly professional cars – a hearse and an ambulance. Within a few minutes the versatile combination coach could be converted from a dignified funeral coach to an emergency ambulance. Like Tony's car, these dual-purpose coaches cars were often painted in neutral colors – white, blue, beige or some other inoffensive color suitable for both roles.

BACK COVER PHOTO -- When Maryland PCS member Steve Lichtman heard we were working with New Jersey member Rich Litton on a story about the unique modular-type Cadillac ambulances built by the Franklin Body Corp. of Brooklyn, N.Y., Steve dug into his vast photo collection and came up with the best of only three color shots we've ever seen of one of these unusual vehicles. Rich tells us these vehicles, which were unique to New Jersey rescue and first aid squads, were usually painted a pale green. The '58 Franklin Cadillac in Steve's photo was repainted red-and-white by a later owner.