

Received the news yesterday (2-1-17) that Gordon Woolley of Waco Texas passed away at age 94.

Born in 1922, Gordon Woolley began racing in 1946 flipping Jalopies at ten bucks a flip at his home track the Waco, "Suicide Bowl". He soon assaulted the circle tracks in his "34" Ford and in the 1950's moved into the Sprint ranks becoming a "Driver for Hire" for the next twenty seasons. He would often travel 60,000 miles a year in his Chevy six with a suitcase, coveralls and helmet and his success led to an early reputation as an "Outlaw", as he would race anywhere, anytime, winning races from California to Florida.

Gordon's IMCA career led to a 1963 season in which he drove for three different car owners winning ten Main events and the Championship, besting Pete Folsie by over 500 points. In the IMCA he won twenty Features while driving for Chet Wilson, Jack Colvin and Sandy Young, Hector Honore, Sid Wienberger and Charlie Goodrich. Gordon came to the Big Car Racing Association in 1965 and finished 7th in points. In 1966 he finished in the top five as he did in 68' while driving for Bill Hoback. In the late 70's the BCRA, IMCA and Gordon Woolley were done with Sprint Car racing but the mark left by all three will last forever... ( from Gordon's Big Car Racing Hall of Fame Plaque).

It hasn't been that many years ago that Gordon sat down in a Stock Car prepared for him and ran the Waco track, I would guess he was about 86 at the time, that was his last race. GW





Harry Ivers #58 and Gordon Woolley #17 at Hutchinson Kansas 1968.

