

# SPORTS: COLTS HALL OF FAMER JOHN MACKEY DIES AT 69



## In a league of its own

Villager's 1967 Morris Minor  
1000 is quite an attraction

Wheels E1

## Weather

Scattered storms

Hi: 89 Lo: 72

Complete Forecast C2



## Spiritual connotation

Support for faith-based movies has  
picked up in recent years with  
success of 'Fireproof' in 2008 and  
this year's 'Jumping the Broom'

Lifestyles D1

The Villages  
**DAILY SUN**

# E

Friday, July 8, 2011

The Villages Daily Sun

# WHEELS

To report  
feature news

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community  
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## Ferrari 308

With the help of a popular TV private eye,  
the 308 became an all-time Ferrari favorite

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## CLASSIC CARS IN THE VILLAGES



Photos by George Homford / Daily Sun

**Above:** William Houghton decided he needed a new ride to go with his new home in The Villages. He couldn't deny his attraction and is now the owner of this 1967 Morris Minor 1000. **Below:** Houghton stands next to his Minor on June 15 at his Village of De La Vista North home.

# MINOR ATTRACTION

Villager William Houghton can't get enough of his Morris Minor 1000

By DAISY MOON  
DAILY SUN

## THE VILLAGES -

**F**rom the rear, William Houghton's classic ride could pass as a Volkswagen.  
But take a short trip around the sides and front of the automobile and it is quickly clear this little beauty is in a league all of its own.

The Village of De La Vista North resident purchased his 1967 Morris Minor 1000 about a year ago.

For the most part, Houghton already understood the inner workings of what he was getting, as he had driven Morris Minor vans as part of his past employment in England.

## SHARE YOUR RIDE

If you have a classic car, truck or motorcycle, or if you have a unique stepped-up street rod, we would like to feature you and your vehicle in the Daily Sun. Contact: Kelly Linder at 733-1119, ext. 8620 or [kplinder@thevillages.com](mailto:kplinder@thevillages.com).

now, William Houghton said Pauline Houghton understands that the Morris Minor is his baby.

"It's quite an attraction," Pauline Houghton said of the car. "People wonder what it is."

## Welcome deception

A gleaming blue exterior - comparable to what William Houghton calls an Oxford blue - gives way to a complementing light blue leather interior.

The vehicle features a 1000 cc 4-cylinder engine, which Houghton said is a very simple engine.

Though the engine itself is nothing fancy, William Houghton said the Morris Minor offers a fantastic drive.

"It sounds like it's going really fast," he said. "But it's not."

The Morris Minor 1000 tops out only at 66 mph, he said.

There's also a bit of deception in the car's size, as



Houghton says he decided to leave the steering wheel on the right side of the car. "I could have had it changed in England," he said. "But I don't think it's that much of a problem."

William Houghton said: "It's quite big, but it looks small."

And there is one noticeable difference between the British-made car and those that you typically encounter on U.S. roadways: The vehicle's steering wheel is on the right side.

"I could have had it changed in England," he said. "But I don't think it's that much of a problem."

#### Car's history

The Morris Minor 1000 was introduced in 1948. William Houghton said, and was designed by Alec Issigonis, the same person who created the Mini.

The Morris Minor, William Houghton said, was supposed to be affordable to the working class.

Years later, a British man by the name of Charles Ware opened a business selling and refurbishing Morris Minors.

"He bought hundreds of these cars," William Houghton said. "And he

even owns a factory in Bangladesh and can make any part for it."

William Houghton bought his car through Ware's business and said that upon making a purchase, buyers are given a spare kit of everything that might be needed if it broke down — points, plugs, things unheard of now that are needed with this car.

#### Small car, big effect

After a year of wheeling about in his little blue ride, William Houghton couldn't be happier.

He and his wife often take sheet outings in the Morris Minor, making stops in nearby communities.

When it's on the road, the vehicle attracts more than a few stares, a fact that Pauline Houghton has good-naturally accepted.

"I'm getting used to that now," she said.

Stares or not, William Houghton simply is happy to be the owner of the car he sought for so long.

"I'm very pleased with it," he said. "It's had a much bigger impact than I ever thought it would."

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— William Houghton



William Houghton's 1967 Morris Minor 1000 sits outside his home June 15 in the Village of De La Vista North.

George Horford / Daily Sun