

*Talking  
Points*

## 93-Year-Old Turns In Keys After 567,000 Miles With Her 1964 Mercury Comet Caliente



**ELDER ABUSE**  
Hiding in Plain Sight

# Seniors on the Road

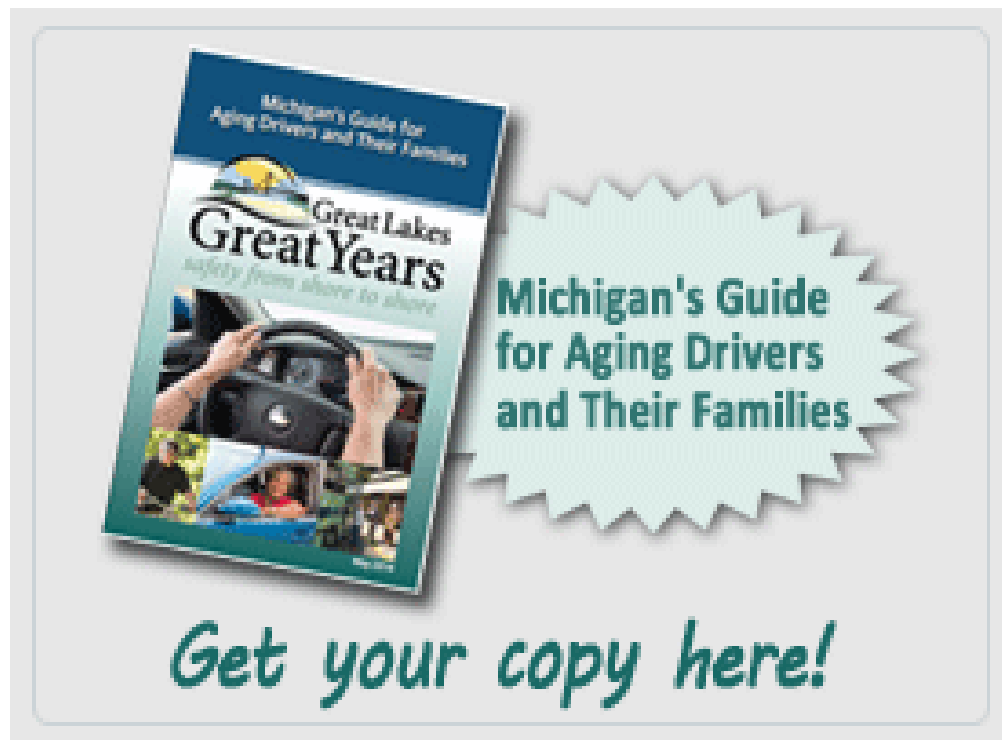
- Rachel Veitch had quite a the journey with her 1964 Mercury Comet Caliente after enough miles for a trip to the moon and back.
- The car lasted her 567,000 miles and outlasted 18 batteries, 8 mufflers, and 3 husbands. Now though, the 93-year-old grandma is hanging up the keys.
- When Rachel bought “Chariot” in February of 1964, gas cost 39 cents per gallon. And the car only cost her \$3,289. Veitch says the car has been featured in several car shows and was renovated in 2002 after she got a speeding ticket for going 92 mph in a 55 mph zone.
- The key to keeping it so immaculate? “When I buy gas, I write down the mileage, the date and how many miles per gallon I got,” she told. “I’ve never been a destructive person and I’ve just taken care of everything, except my husbands.”



<https://www.powernationtv.com/post/93-year-old-turns-in-keys-after-567000-miles-with-her-1964-mercury-comet-caliente?fbclid=IwAR2dODN9pl2Yvl3wLHMvJHapBojR0QnhbYjYWkN6RFsi-jwuJ5jTF5IR0QI>

# Conclusion

Rachel, unfortunately, passed away on May 11, 2017, at the age of 98.



# AGING DRIVERS –

*Talking Points*

**Your Independence is vital..... and driving is a vital skill to get you where you want.**

**Safe Drivers Smart Options provides resources for active older drivers, and for drivers who may be considering limiting their driving and finding other transportation choices. Helping maintain lifelong safe mobility is everyone's responsibility, including aging adults, families and friends, and professionals who interact with aging adults.**

# Family and Friends:

- You want your loved aging family members to stay safely mobile, whether they are driving, are thinking about stopping driving, or have given up the keys. Michigan's Guide for the Aging Driver and their family members, and caregivers, help aging adults continue to drive safely, by beginning the process of giving up the keys, and safely get where they want to go once they have stopped driving. This guide helps them to understand how aging and age related changes in health status affect the ability to drive safely. It also provides references to additional information and services.

# Professional's

*Talking  
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- Health care providers and others, including public safety officers and driver licensing experts; have a wealth of information designed to keep aging adults safe and active that can improve their ability to help aging adults stay safely mobile.

# Referral for Driver Reexamination

- Michigan law authorizes the Department of State to reexamine a driver when there is reason to believe the driver may be unable to operate a motor vehicle safely. The Department relies on information from law enforcement, medical personnel, Secretary of State branch staff, and concerned citizens, including family members, to identify unsafe drivers.
- The Department of State provides a form, called a Request for Driver Evaluation (OC-88), that can be completed and submitted to the Traffic Safety Division to request a review of an individual's driving skills. This form is available at your local Secretary of State branch office or by clicking on the link at the bottom of this page. The OC-88 form will ask you for information about the driver and the incident or pattern of behavior that justifies an evaluation. You will also be required to include your name, address, telephone number and signature. This information will remain confidential to the extent permitted by law.



You may also write a letter to  
the Department of State at the  
following address:

Traffic Safety Division  
Michigan Department of State  
P.O. Box 30810  
Lansing, MI 48909-9832



- Your letter must include the name, birth date, driver license number (if known), and current address of the driver being referred. In addition, the letter must describe an incident or pattern of behavior, or other evidence that justifies an evaluation. The request must also include your name, address, telephone number and signature.



# For your time, attendance, and attention

## WHO IS AT RISK?

Elder abuse can occur anywhere – in the home, in nursing homes, or other institutions. It affects seniors across all socio-economic groups, cultures, and races. Based on available information, women and “older” elders are more likely to be victimized. Dementia is a significant risk factor. Mental health and substance abuse issues – of both abusers and victims – are risk factors. Isolation can also contribute to risk.

## WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I SUSPECT ABUSE?

Report your concerns. Most cases of elder abuse go undetected. Don't assume that someone has already reported a suspicious situation. The agency receiving the report will ask what you observed, who was involved, and who they can contact to learn more. You do not need to prove that abuse is occurring; it is up to the professionals to investigate the suspicions.

**REPORTING** is confidential and you may remain anonymous. Making a report in instances of neglect or abuse is the right thing to do...and its easy don't be afraid. Elders have a right to be safe! To report suspected abuse in the community Adult Protective Services (APS) is here to help.

**IN CASES OF IMMEDIATE DANGER, CALL 911**

## VULNERABLE

A condition in which an adult is unable to protect himself or herself from abuse, neglect, or exploitation because of a mental or physical impairment or advanced age

## EMOTIONAL/PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE

- Unexplained or uncharacteristic changes in behavior, such as withdrawal from normal activities, unexplained changes in alertness, etc.
- Isolate elder (doesn't let anyone into the home or speak to the elder)
- Verbally aggressive or demeaning, controlling, overly concerned about spending money, or uncaring

## FINANCIAL ABUSE/EXPLOITATION

- Lack of amenities victim could afford
- Vulnerable elder/adult “voluntarily” giving uncharacteristically excessive financial reimbursement/gifts for needed care and companionship
- Has control of elder's money but is failing to provide for elder's needs
- Vulnerable elder/adult has signed property transfers (Power of Attorney, new will, etc.) but is unable to comprehend the transaction or what it means

**NO EXCUSE**  
FOR Elder Abuse

**1-855-444-3911**

NLSM-Elder Law & Advocacy Center

## NEGLECT / SELF NEGLECT

- Lack of basic hygiene, adequate food, or clean and appropriate clothing
- Lack of medical aids (glasses, walker, teeth, hearing aid, and medications)
- Person with dementia left unsupervised
- Person confined to bed is left without care
- Home cluttered, filthy, in disrepair, or having fire and safety hazards
- Home without adequate facilities (stove, refrigerator, heat, cooling, working plumbing, and electricity)
- Untreated pressure “bed” sores (pressure ulcers)

## PHYSICAL/SEXUAL ABUSE

- Inadequately explained fractures, bruises, welts, cuts, sores or burns
- Unexplained sexually transmitted diseases

## ABANDONMENT

- Lack of social connectedness
- Desertion by family, community or agency
- Left unattended in a public facility or waiting room


DAAA REGION 1A  
THE DETROIT SENIOR SOLUTION  
1333 Brewery Park Blvd. Ste. 200  
Detroit, MI 48207  
313.446.4444



*If you or others experience abuse or neglect in a long term care facility (e.g. nursing home, assisted living facility), The Michigan Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is here to help.*

*Call 1-866-485-9393 Toll Free*

# ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES



**DOES SOMEONE YOU KNOW**  
*- a senior or adult with a disability -  
display any warning signs of mistreatment?*

**Adult Protective Services**  
**1-855-444-3911**

For State reporting numbers visit the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services Agency MDHHS website.

The National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA) directed by the U.S. Administration on Aging, helps communities, agencies and organizations ensure that elders and adults with disabilities can live with dignity, and without abuse, neglect, and exploitation. NCEA is the place to turn for education, research, and promising practices in stopping abuse.

**ELDER ABUSE**  
Hiding in Plain Sight

## **WHAT IS ELDER ABUSE?**

In general, elder abuse refers to intentional or neglectful acts by a care giver or "trusted" individual that lead to, or may lead to, harm of a vulnerable elder. In many states, younger adults with disabilities may qualify for the same services and protections. Emotional or psychological abuse; financial abuse and exploitation; neglect; physical abuse; sexual abuse; and abandonment are all considered forms of elder abuse. In many states, self-neglect is also considered mistreatment.