## Doc Savage's 1952 MG-TD Roadster on Display at Garrett County

on Display at Garrett County Museum of Transportation

William Gordon "Doc" Savage, DDS, an oral surgeon and dentist in Oakland, Maryland, for more than 40 years was an avid outdoorsman who embraced everything Garrett County had to offer, from its woods, to its lakes and streams, to its farmland.

His appreciation of history and craftsmanship developed into a passion for restoring old cars, beginning with a 1929 Model A and his uncle's 1916 Model T, followed by a 1969 Jaguar and a 1952 MG-TD Roadster. Doc and his MG Roadster was a familiar sight driving around Garrett County and in many Autumn Glory parades where he chauffeured various dignitaries over the years. Although Doc passed away in 2014, his MG-TD Roadster is on display at the Garrett County Museum of Transportation in downtown Oakland, MD, on loan by his widow, Ruta and children.

MG (Morris Garages), was founded in 1924 by William R. Morris in the United Kingdom, with the MG-TD being produced from 1950 through 1953. It features independent front suspension, rack and pinion steering and is powered by a 1250cc motor with twin SU carburetors and a 4-speed manual transmission. Examples tested in 1952 had a top speed of 77 mph and could accelerate from 0–60 mph in 18.2 seconds.

William G. "Doc"
Savage chauffeuring
his friend, Roscoe
Bartlett, in his 1952
MG-TD Roadster,
during an Autumn
Glory Parade in downtown Oakland, MD.

Bartlett

Nearly 30,000 TDs had been produced when the series ended in 1953 with all but 1,656 exported. The main complaint that U.S. owners had with the MG-TD sold in the United States was the British 12-volt electrical system, which was hard to service when most U.S. cars were still using 6 volts. Also, they had

when most U.S. cars were still using 6 volts. Also, they had minor complaints over the lack of water temperature and fuel gauges.

This MG-TD has a positive ground Lucas electrical system

with manual steering and brakes. The body is ash wood on

a steel frame. Non-original items include the woodwork,

fender mirrors, driving lamps, side windshield deflectors, visors, and radiator cap.

Doc Savage, a great advocate for preserving the natural beauty of Garrett County, will be missed by many for all of his accomplishments and adventures, as well as driving his MG Roadster in the Autumn Glory parades.



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