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Order Up: An Oregon Estate With a 1950s-Style Diner Asks \$8 Million

The 20-acre West Linn property was built by a car enthusiast who included a mechanic shop and showroom



For years, the late auto enthusiast William Wilt loved meeting up with his car-collector friends at diners, recalled his daughter Alisha Wilt. So when William and his wife, Diane Wilt, built a new Oregon home in the early 2000s, they included a car showroom, workshop and a 1950s-style diner.

“His dream was, instead of meeting up at the local diner where they would all gather and have lunch together, he would host them at his house,” Alisha said.

Now the West Linn property is going on the market for \$8 million. The 20-acre estate has a roughly 13,300-square-foot, five-bedroom home with indoor and outdoor pools, according to Kendra Ratcliff of LUXE Forbes Global Properties, who shares the listing with Terry Sprague.

The Wilts, who were real-estate investors, raised their children in the Oregon city of Albany. Once their daughters were grown, however, they started looking for a new home with a lot of land. “They wanted to create their own little sanctuary,” said Alisha.

West Linn, an area known for its large luxury estates, is about 13 miles from Portland. The Wilts chose this property for its proximity to Portland and because it borders the golf course at the Oregon Golf Club, adding an extra layer of privacy. They bought the land in 1999 for \$750,000, according to property records, and spent around two years developing it with their future grandchildren in mind.



The diner has a professional-grade griddle.

In addition to the house, the property has a roughly 16,200-square-foot, three-level workshop building containing the diner, a mechanic shop, a one-bedroom apartment and the showroom, which can fit around 15 cars. William worked on hot rods and displayed his cars in the workshop, which has a built-in dynamometer, a device that measures the torque and rotational speed of a vehicle's engine.

In the diner, he installed a professional-grade griddle, which can be used to make dishes like pancakes and French toast.

"He was very social," Alicia said of her father, who died in 2015. "He loved sharing his passion."

The property also has a warehouse that spans around 7,600 square feet.

Alisha, her sister, and their children visited the estate for holidays and during the summer. "It would feel like we were on vacation, especially in the summertime," she said. Her sister, Kristin Wilt, had her wedding reception there.

The family has decided to sell the West Linn property because it feels like the right time to let it go. "It's a very special place," Alisha said.

If the Wilts' home sells at or near its asking price, it will become the most expensive recorded sale in West Linn, according to Zillow. The current record is held by a 2-acre estate that sold for \$6.54 million last year.



The property is about 20 acres. The estate was built in the early 2000s.



The house spans roughly 13,300 square feet.



The showroom fits around 15 cars. The house has an indoor pool and hot tub.

https://www.wsj.com/real-estate/luxury-homes/oregon-estate-with-diner-asks-8-million-2223403c?st=pZK7JS&reflink=desktopwebshare_permalink