

 U.S. Department of Transportation National Highway Traffic Safety Administration	DOT Auto Safety Hotline <b>Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire</b> To Report Vehicle Safety Defects 1-888-DASH-2-DOT (1-888-327-4236) INTERNET: www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline		FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 231	
	Date Received: 21-APR-2004 17:41:25		Repository <input type="checkbox"/> Reference No.: 10068613	
OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)				
Name		Daytime Telephone Number		E-mail Address
Address		Evening Telephone Number		
City	State	Zip Code		
FOWLerville	MI			
Do you authorize NHTSA to provide a copy of this report to the manufacturer of your vehicle? In the absence of a manufacturer, NHTSA will not provide a copy of this report or address to the vehicle manufacturer.				
Signature of Owner		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO Date: 5/10/04		
VEHICLE INFORMATION				
17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side		Make	Model	Model Year
1G2HK52K3W		PONTIAC	BONNEVILLE	1996
Date Purchased	Dealer's Name and Telephone Number		Engine: 3.8 LITER	Fuel Type:
9-4-1998	SUNNER'S PONTIAC 517-332-5011		No. Cylinders	
Original Owner	Dealer's City	State	Zip Code	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EAST LANSING	MI	48823	3800 V-6 CATALYST
Transmission Type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Antilock Brakes	Powertrain		Vehicle Component Code
4-speed Electronic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cruise Control			D6000 ENGINE AND ENGINE COOLING
		Multiple Failure: 1		
FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION				
Incident Date(s)	Failure Mileage	Failure Speed	Failure Description	
3-3-04	70741	30	Plastic Intake manifold gasket	
ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE				
Tire Make	Tire Model (Name or Number)		Tire Size (Example P215/65R15)	
DOT No. (Example: DOT1M18ABC036)	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Equipment	Failure Location:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Prior Repair				
Tire Component Code				Tire Failure Type
ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE				
Make:	Date Manufactured:	Model No./Name:		
Seat Type:	Installation System:			
Child Seat Component Code:	Failed Part:			
APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION				
(Please describe in detail the incident(s), failure(s), crash(es), and injuries.)				

On 3-3-04 the Bonneville was being driven only about 4 miles. The 'service engine soon' light flashed. My son was driving and only had less than 1/4 mile to reach home, so continued in an attempt to get the vehicle home. As he turned to get into driveway the vehicle stalled - steering and all brakes were lost. Luckily it happened in the driveway, not on a highway, where a serious accident could have resulted. The repair shop towed the car and found a faulty plastic intake manifold gasket that had leaked and allowed coolant to leak into the engine, causing engine failure. No visible signs were present to be able to know that this was happening. The repair shop stated that they had seen this problem many times, and there is even a repair kit for this problem available. With further research, I've discovered numerous complaints on your website concerning this exact problem. The replacement engine was showing signs of the exact same things happening to it, so we purchased a kit and had the repair done to the replacement engine. Total repair costs - \$3,279.06. I feel that GM is very aware that this problem exists (found a copy of a TSB sent to dealers and a recall notice for 2000-2003 Bonneville's), but they have not and will not do anything more (I've tried several avenues to try to get some response with nothing more than 'We can do nothing to help'). We were very lucky that this did not happen on a busy highway, someone could have easily been killed. Please do something about this before someone does get killed!!!!

**THE ATTACHMENTS TO THIS  
DOCUMENT HAVE BEEN REMOVED  
TO PROTECT UNWARRANTED  
INVASION OF PERSONAL PRIVACY  
PURSUANT TO EXEMPTION 6 OF  
THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
ACT (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(6).**