

MUSTANGS northwest



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MUSTANGS NORTHWEST IS DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION, RESTORATION,
AND ENJOYMENT OF THE FORD MUSTANG AND MERCURY COUGAR AUTOMOBILES.



Say 'Hello' to

Old Man

Kirk Myhre's 1965 Coupe

INSIDE

CAMP GOODTIMES RIDE-A-THON

The Ridge Motorsports Park, Shelton WA - Kirk Myhre



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After church one Sunday, a long time ago, a group of same aged friends and acquaintances gathered to figure out where we were going for brunch. As usual, a friend of mine and I began discussing the issues he was having with his newly acquired Porsche 944. As soon as our side conversation turned to cars, it was clear who the car people were and weren't. The group quickly disassembled in two directions. Not wanting to be totally rude, I engaged some of the others that had joined our little side conversation. On my left was a tall, athletic blonde woman that seemed fully engaged in our mundane discussion of Porsche timing marks. I asked her if she was a "car girl". She said no but she just liked older cars.



She introduced herself as Amy. We spent the next 4 hours talking politics, engineering, art, current events, cars and pretty much anything else I could think of to keep the conversation going. There might have been other people there. I didn't really care.

Our first date was changing the oil in her dreadfully boring Toyota Corolla followed by a drive in my Miata and a picnic. Dates at the Pacific Northwest Historics at Pacific Raceways and other car-related events followed. Three months later, we were engaged. Eight months later, we were married.

Almost 20 years has now passed and Pacific Northwest Historics is on our calendar every year. The limited edition Miata M-Sport and the 1968 F100 farm truck I had when we were married are long gone. As are the flaming- red BMW 5 Series, a couple of other random Ford trucks and a string of forgettable Japanese SUVs.







Fast-forward 15 years and I wanted a toy. My 2010 Rapid Spec Convertible was the result of that search. The rebuild of my father-in-law's 1967 VW Beetle and my "ratrod" 1975 Ford F100 4x4 followed fairly soon after. I finally felt like I had a nice mix of fun and practical cars (I think I forgot to mention the twin Volvos...).

All that changed when I came to the realization that my now-15 year old daughter was starting drivers' training in a couple months. I was going to lose my super reliable, albeit rather boring Volvo daily driver. What was I going to do for an everyday car? I really don't want to daily drive the convertible and the truck won't fit in most of the parking garages at work. After 3 solid years of automotive restoration taking place in the garage, Amy was done with projects. So, if I wanted something that wasn't a Toyota Corolla, it had to be "done" and cost-effective. Of course, that's the point at which my brain and reality part company.





I've always wanted a gen-one Mustang. Maybe now is the time. I put out some feelers but I was either finding full-retail restorations or full-blown projects. I was starting to feel like another boring sedan was in my future.

As luck would have it, Craig Johnson agreed to let me shoot his 1970 Boss 302 for the Car of the Month. During the shoot, he mentioned that he was almost done with a driver-quality car that he bought as a flip project. Needless to say, my ears perked up. Pictures were shared. Descriptions were provided with lots of caveats and a price was discussed.

A couple of weeks passed for negotiation with Amy on one side and the finishing touches being done on the other. Finally, the car was ready and so were we.





We met at Craig's place in Renton to drive the car and make sure it fit the bill. A five minute drive and a big smile on Amy's face was all it took to reassure me that we were taking this one home.

It made it through its first week of daily driving. Its done trips to work, tennis camp, bubble tea, the grocery store and, of course, the auto parts store. There are a couple of immediate things that need to be addressed but that was expected. I'm daily driving a 52 year old car. Whether this little experiment goes well or sideways, I know Amy will love me for the car guy I am. And, I'll try to remember the slogan from the T-shirt..."Life is too short to drive boring cars".

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to be 'C. D.', is located at the bottom center of the page. The signature is stylized and fluid.