

Presidential Exhaust

Keep them Rollin, and Never forget

It is hard to believe that the Mustang is over fifty years old. Like many, I remember the day the Mustang hit the streets and the immediate Mustang mania that followed. When it hit the road gas was twenty seven cents a gallon, most people made under a hundred dollars a week, a seat in the bleachers at a Sox game cost seventy five cents and you had plenty of seats to pick from, too. The Boston (New England) Patriots were a new expansion team only a few years old, and most programs on TV, with “rabbit ears”, were still in black and white. We have come a long way in those fifty plus years and to think what the Mustang has done as a real American icon goes far beyond stamped sheet metal and an engine.

It has, through the years, given pride of ownership, pride of being part of a winner; it has brought people together in longtime friendship. We have seen people get married after meeting, because of the Mustang and children becoming closer to their parents because of the Mustang. So this idea that almost never got off the ground until a few people at Ford cut a few more cents off the cost of production, has been, and continues to be, one of the biggest stimulus plans ever conceived in this country.

What we should not lose sight of is the future of this car. It still looks bright for every year. Recently it seems, Ford keeps raising the bar but has not lost sight of an affordable sporty car with a back seat. Thank God they have kept with that vision for the car.

How the Mustang brought people together, like extended families, gives us joy and togetherness. But when we lose someone it's a loss of a good friend, a loss to the Mustang family, and makes a big hole in our lives. Whatever I say about George Valerie will not be enough. You never realize how important someone is to you and the rest of the family until you have lost them. George was a true Mustang lover and even more a lover of our club and its principals. He was the first to help in any endeavor we planned. There are not many people in this world that I would trust to stand behind me if I was falling, to catch me; I knew George would be there. His heart was gold and his words were honest and true. George, I hope, no, I know, you will be at all the shows going forward and be the corner stone of our love of the Mustang and the car club dedicated to the preservation of the breed.

That said, the club is in the process of developing a new award. An award to be given out at the end of each year. This award will be awarded to the person who, like George, went way beyond the meaning of dedication and volunteerism. This award may not be given out some years if no one reaches the criteria set out to receive the award. I have developed a committee to design the award and most importantly map out the qualifications for receiving such a prestigious recognition. I just hope when it is given out that George will be smiling from ear to ear. We will always miss him.

Love ya George,

Jim Silverman
President MCCNE Inc.