

MUSTANG ROMANCE STORIES:

Greg Dengler's Mustang Courtships

by G. Dengler

I met my ex-wife because of a Mustang. I was bracket racing a 1970 fastback at the local dragstrip - Maple Grove Raceway, Reading, PA. I got laid off from my job and the budget got tight, so the Mustang had to go. I ran an ad in the paper and only had one call, it was a girl. We set up an appointment for her to look at it. I told her right up front it was not meant for the street, but she didn't care, she just wanted a Mustang. The deal was struck and the Mustang went.

A few months later we ran into each other and we really got to know each other. I was always a Mustang enthusiast and she was really into them too. By this time, I had gotten another job and acquired a 1970 Mach I, which I still own today. We started hanging around together and one thing led to another. The next thing I knew, three years later, we were standing in front of the altar getting married.

Life was going very well for us and we were putting together a nice collection of cars. We had two 1970 Mach I's, a 1969 convertible, a 1970 fastback (the original one that started all this which is now being shown as a modified), a 1969 coupe, and a 1968 Sprint, which we used daily. We went to the car shows, had a lot of fun and made many new friends. We were members of the MCA and the First Pennsylvania Mustang Club.

Due to circumstances beyond my control, this all came to an abrupt end in April 1986. We split up and both went separate ways. What happened to the cars you ask? One Mach I was sold, the second Mach I I still have and it is undergoing a full restoration, and the 1969 convertible was sold. The 1970 fastback went to her, and the '69 coupe was hers. The 1968 Sprint met its end in June 1986. A guy ran a red light and came right into my path — I had no place to go.

There is a happy ending to all this though. This past summer I was working a part-time job at a service station other than my full time job and there is a car wash right across the street. This girl used to go over there quite often and wash her car. I'll bet you all know what kind of car — a Mustang — a 1973 Mach I.

One night, I was tending to a customer, she pulled out and started up the road. I liked her Mach I, so I gave her thumbs up as she went by and she waved back. This went on for about a month or so. We just kept waving to each other. Then one night she stopped for gas and we started talking. Now we are seeing each other on a regular basis and everything is very good. She goes along to club meetings with me and is very much looking forward to the show season this summer.

If things keep going as they are, this could be the start of something new!

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