

BOOK INFO

The following review has been submitted to us by Motorbooks International, P. O. Box 2, 729 Prospect Avenue, Osceola, Wisconsin 54020.

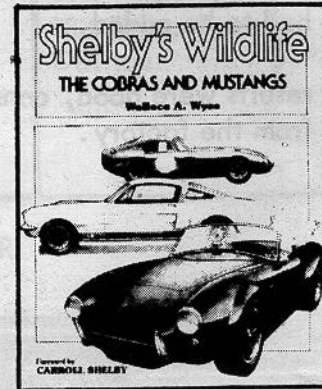
TITLE: Shelby's Wildlife: The Cobras and Mustangs

AUTHOR: Wallace A. Wyss

FORMAT: 7-5/8 x 9-1/2" (19.5 x 24.2 cm), 224 pages, 200 photographs, hardbound

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In Shelby's Wildlife: The Cobras and Mustangs Wallace A. Wyss has written the story of two legends--a series of high performance cars unlike any that have been put on the American market before or since, and the determined Texan who created them.

When he walked into the Ford Motor corporate offices in 1963, Carroll Shelby was a former Le Mans winner with little more to his name than his cowboy hat, bib overalls, a glamorous image and a big desire to create a hybrid sports car of European and American technology. But Ol' Shel was just in time to get in on Ford's Total Performance promotion, and with Ford's backing he soon put together a successful prototype mating a Ford V-8 with an English A.C. roadster chassis and body. Shelby then went on to prove the almost unbelievable performance potential of this combination.

Included in the background of the incredible story that followed is how Shelby put together an unbeatable combination of people. The unique group at Shelby-American consisted of men like Phil Remington, the director of research and development, who could build a car from the ground up; Ken Miles--a perfectionist and great development driver; Pete Brock--a promotional wizard and creator of designs like the Daytona Coupe; and Al Dowd, who coordinated the work force as the company grew from a few to a huge organization. A number of these former Shelby-American employees were interviewed for this book.

Most of all, Shelby's Wildlife is a detailed account of the development of Shelby's amazing cars. From the beginning, the 260, 289 and ferocious 427 roadsters proved that a well-engineered combination of power and durability could win races. Three chapters detail the Cobra's racing history, emphasizing the international scene where the Daytona Coupe took on the likes of Ferrari and won a World Manufacturer's Championship.

But the story didn't end when the last 427 rolled off the assembly line in 1966; the Shelby Mustangs G.T.-350, G.T.-350R, G.T.-500 and G.T.-500KR carried on the Cobra tradition. A year-by-year analysis of each Shelby-Mustang model is provided in this book.

From the early sixties to the present involvement of those who will not forget the excitement and are actively keeping the Shelby legend alive, Shelby's Wildlife: The Cobras and Mustangs is a delightful and important history. This book is complete with specification charts and tables, and complemented with over 200 photographs and a Foreword written by none other than Mr. Shelby himself. Available at fine bookstores everywhere.

Editor's Note: This is a very interesting and informative publication and we highly recommend for your reading pleasure.