

# LONG TERM

## *Relationship*



### **BUSTER AND VICKIE MOORE'S 1968 COUPE HAS BECOME A PART OF THE FAMILY**

Text and Photos by R. Shorty Brown

**T**his lovely 1968 Mustang Coupe with the Sprint "B" package is owned by Buster and Vickie Moore of Concord, NC. The photos for this article were taken at the North Carolina Transportation Museum at Spencer, NC, which is on the 57-acre site of the Southern Railway's former locomotive heavy maintenance shops.

Buster's Mustang habit began with the purchase of this Mustang on March 23, 1977, in Richmond, VA. It was sold

by a former co-worker that had a baby on the way but did not have adequate insurance to cover the maternity bills. They were in need of fast cash and Buster was in need of a Mustang!

Buster met his wife, Vickie, in October 1977 and dated her for two years, driving her in this pony until their wedding on April 14, 1979. This little Mustang was Buster's daily driver from the day he bought and for the next 20 years. In 1977, what was started as an engine bay restoration culminated in a full-blown restoration, which he completed in 2004.

Some notable things about this Mustang are that it still has the original engine block and other major engine parts, original seat belts, and the rear seat has its original upholstery. The restoration work was accomplished by Buster along with some family and friends. The paint and body work was handled by Kevin Yeargin of Carolina Pony Cars in Monroe, NC. The engine rebuild was done by Buster's brother, Billy Moore of Louisa, VA, and family friend Donnie Clatterbuck of Midlothian, VA. During the restoration, Buster added



GT Styled Steel wheels, GT exhaust and the GT rear valence panel, turn signal hood, and a GT pop open gas cap that Buster purchased for \$18 in 1977 from Ross Ford in Chester, VA.

Since completion of the restoration in 2004, Buster has been very active with his coupe. He has participated in two Hot Rod Power Tours, one in 2004 from Arlington, TX, to Green Bay, WI, and the other in 2006 from Kissimmee, FL, to Englishtown, NJ. The coupe was featured on "Barrett-Jackson on the Road" in January 2007, which was filmed at Lowe's Motor Speedway at the Food Lion Auto Fair in September 2006. The Mustang's dash has been autographed by legendary NASCAR Driver Dale Jarrett at Dale's retirement party held at Dale Jarrett Ford just east of Charlotte, NC, in May 2008.

Buster has also been active on the local car show scene in North Carolina where he earned several Best in Class awards, one Best in Show award, and one Best in Show Runner Up award.

Buster recently retired after 30 years with Phillip Morris where he drove the little coupe to his first day of work on June 19, 1978, and he drove it on his last day of work 30 years later. Buster has plans to continue showing the pony, participating in local cruise-ins, and just having more fun.

To help occupy some of his time since his retirement Buster, has started restoring a 1969 Mach I for his wife. We can't wait to see it when it's complete. **MT**



