

Sammy's Springtime Yellow Fastback



By

Maryann Hall

My husband, Sammy, and I have a very special story about a very special car . . . a springtime yellow '67 fastback. We would like to share this story with Mustang lovers everywhere.

You see, my husband is in a wheelchair, paralyzed from his shoulders down. He has a great love for cars, especially for the Mustang, since he owned a '65 coupe before he got hurt.

After his accident, he had to get rid of his Mustang and get a van. His desire for another Mustang was so great that in August of '79, we bought a faded-out yellow '67 fastback that needed body work. The motor was shot, and even the transmission had to be rebuilt.

At first, he decided if he could get some friends to do the work, he would supply the parts needed to fix the Mustang up for the drags. Only it started to cost us a lot of money, and we weren't getting anywhere with it. His friends lost interest, and that ended *that* idea.

We had no idea that there were Mustang Clubs and that Mustangs were such a popular item. Not until we met Tony and Margie Lagone, who told us about MCA and restoring Mustangs and car shows. This opened a new door for my husband and me; we were really excited.

But when we started looking around for a body and paint shop, we found the cost was very high, not to mention a front fender which had to be replaced, along with other parts. Also, I couldn't do the work myself. So we got discouraged, feeling the best thing to do was to sell the car.

But a very special man — Mr. Lagone — came to us knowing our problem and said that a Mustang Club had been formed in our area (Brooksville, Florida). If we would be interested in joining and restoring our car, he said he would talk to the other members and see if they would be willing to donate their time to do the body work and paint the car.

Well, I don't have to tell you how happy that made my husband and me. So, our car became the club project. It even worked out that a local auto parts store donated the springtime yellow paint and primer, plus other material needed to do the body work and paint job and that's not all. Some members donated parts to replace what we needed. So an old, ragged-out bruised car was going to get a second chance.

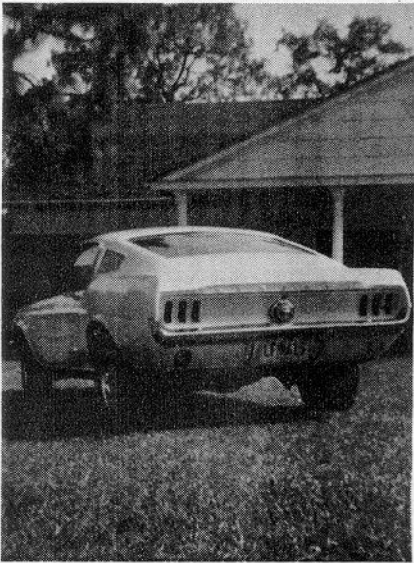
It was an experience most of us won't soon forget. The car was disassembled, cleaned and sanded by the members. Tony did the body work, as most of us had never worked on a car before in our lives. But that didn't stop us, and after the body work was done and we began to reassemble it, the Mustang started to come to life. Then Tony painted it. Oh, it was beautiful, more beautiful than I could ever have imagined! It looked like a brand new car.

We had a lot of fun and doing it with friends made it even more fun, but most of all, we learned about the car, and it was more than a machine. It had a personality of its own, almost like it was human. Of course, she has a very special place in our garage, and we don't drive her, except on special occasions. At her first popular vote show, she won third place out of ten fastbacks. So you know how proud we are of her.

She has a 289 motor and original springtime yellow paint. Her interior is black, all original. The latest addition is original '67 steel style mag wheels.

We want to thank everyone who worked on her, and a special thanks goes to Mr. Lagone, who made it all possible.

We would like to end our story with this one last thought. Sure, we know she isn't perfect and her body work wasn't done by experts and experienced men. Her paint job didn't cost hundreds of dollars, and her parts aren't new. But she was done with love, and that makes all the difference in the world.



“Oh, it was beautiful,
more beautiful than I could ever have
imagined . . .”



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