

Dad's Influence

The types of cars our fathers had in the 50's, 60's and 70's when we were young does leave impressions with us as we get older. Such is the case with David Frock growing up in an Oldsmobile family and eventually having a '68 Olds Cutlass in high school, which left him with many happy memories of his younger years. During those times, a car became part of the family that everyone relied on and even could have been given a name.

Time goes by rather fast as it does for all young adults once they leave the nest; with going to school, getting a good job, getting married, changing priorities or raising a family. Things that used to be important or fun when you were younger get put aside for more important things. We have all gone through this at one time or another as life happens.

In 2006, David felt like he wanted to have an old car in his life again, preferably a long-forgotten 1968 Olds Cutlass. After a long period of continual searching and looking, he realized that what he was looking for was becoming pretty scarce, let alone hard to find. Then one day in March of 2007, he noticed an ad on the internet for a 1968 Olds Toronado at Frankman Motors. The car was all original with only 44,000 miles and listed as a luxury sport car. Although it wasn't a Cutlass, it did grab his interest because it was an Oldsmobile. Dave watched and researched the car for the next six months. He said he became very interested because of the fact that Oldsmobile in the GM division was considered the pioneer to bring back front-wheel drive. Knowing that Oldsmobile always had built good, quality cars, even from his younger years, made him feel like he was on the right path pursuing this car. He asked a couple of buddies at work about their opinions only to get what was thought of as a "Big Old Boat." Not discouraged about other's opinions, in August of 2007 he test-drove the car. That was all it took, and he was hooked. He mentioned, "The car feels more like a muscle car because of the suspension and stock 375 horsepower than the luxury sport car as it was listed." It didn't take long and he had it home.

Dave has been driving the Toronado for three years now and has had very few little issues to deal with because of the car's age, which has made the car thoroughly enjoyable. The fastback look of the top and the style of the car in general have grown on him so much that he will never sell it. On the humorous side, he made mention of driving it in a parade one time, with all the windows down when someone yelled out that his car would make a good destruction derby car. He smiled and told me, "That's probably where most of these big cars went and why there aren't too many left around anymore." It's sad but there is more truth to that statement than we realize.



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