



Founded 1957

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Road Runner at Fifty



**Marty and Kathy Rissi's 1968 Road Runner hardtop coupe
at Radium Hot Springs, British Columbia, Canada**



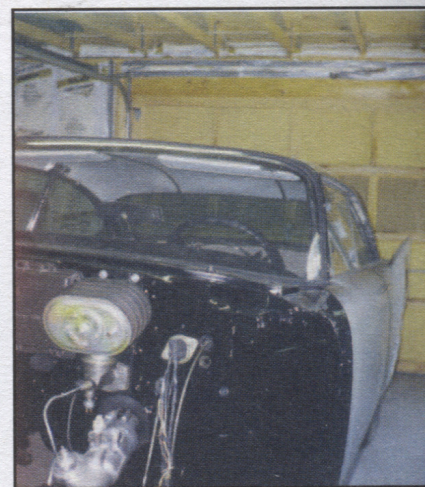
Affirmation

Ed Ober hails from Voorhees, New Jersey. For over 46 years, Ed had managed a heating and air conditioning business, retiring in 1998. Ed's two sons now own and manage the company. Indoor comfort was Ed's business, but Plymouths have always been his passion. Ed has a stable that included a 1934 PE rumble seat coupe (now sold), a 1936 P2 four-door touring sedan and a 1963 Fury convertible. But his 1959 Sport Fury has always been Ed's favorite.

Ed bought his first '59 Sport Fury right out of the service. It had a standard transmission, Golden Commando engine and a Sure Grip rear end. A radio and heater were the only amenities. Ed knew exactly what he wanted the car for—he wanted to race. And race it he did, along with his friend who had a similar Sport Fury with an automatic transmission. Often Ed would take the A-Stock Standard title at the Vineland Speedway and his friend would take A-Stock/ Automatic. But Ed's family was growing, and with much regret he sold the Fury in 1966 for a family car, one that his wife Ruth could drive as well.

Wistfully, Ed would watch from his business property as a white '59 Sport Fury would daily drive by. One day he found the owner, and asked if he would be interested in selling the car. The man said his wife was still driving it, but promised Ed he would contact him in the event he was

ready to sell. But that didn't happen. When Ed crossed paths with the man on a later occasion, he discovered the man had sold Sport Fury to a young kid who worked in his shop. The kid ruined the engine, and when Ed found the car the



Ed's second '59 Sport Fury under restoration



heads were off and the cylinders rusted. Finally, the car was offered to Ed for sale.

In November, 1990, Ed took ownership of the remains and towed it home.

Fortunately, the car had spent most of its life in Arizona, and needed hardly any body work at all. It was largely complete. Ed sent the interior pieces to an acquaintance in Florida for reupholstery, and got to work on the engine and making preparations for painting. He titled the car in July, 1997, and since then he and Ruth have driven the car to many a regional show, and just for fun.

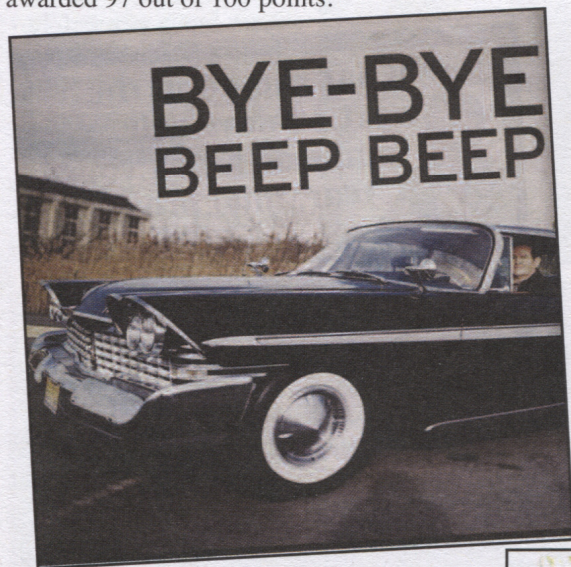


Ed's first '59 Sport Fury



First place trophy from the POC 1999 National Fall Meet

In 1999, Ed's Sport Fury took First in Class 5 (1955-59) at the Plymouth Owners Club National Fall Meet, being awarded 97 out of 100 points.



Kiplinger's magazine article

In 2000, Kiplinger's *Personal Finance* magazine featured Ed's Fury in an article about the demise of the Plymouth brand <<http://bit.ly/59Kiplinger>>. Affirmation indeed, of the quality in restoration of this fine *Black Beauty*.

For many years now, Ed and Ruth have hosted a "pre-Carlisle" luncheon at their home which includes Ron and Matthew Keij (featured in a previous column) and whoever else happens to be going to the Chrysler Nationals at Carlisle.

Ed's pace has slowed a bit in recent years—and so has the Fury's! Fortunately, Matthew was able to help with repairing a leaking power steering pump during our last visit. Ed had himself replaced the brake booster, which had developed a split in the bellows. Soon, it will be off to the transmission shop for a transmission overhaul. But all of this is

to be expected for what is already a twenty-year-old restoration. The Fury will again perform as well as it still looks, and Ed will be back on the show circuit along with it.

—Dan Morton
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*"For '59... If It's New,
Plymouth's Got It!"*



"Golden Commando 395" 361 CID engine

