

THE COMPLETE STORY

I recently received my invitation to participate once again in your event, which I have enjoyed attending for many years now. I purchased my 1970 Lamborghini Miura from a 97 year old gentleman back in 2005. The Miura had become somewhat of an urban myth in the sense people had heard about "the old guy that had a Miura", but it seemed nobody could verify its existence or location. It did exist and I was able to locate it in Southern Oregon owned by Earl Morris, an old timer in his 90s who had bought the Miura as a retirement gift to himself when he was in his late 60s. When I first visited Earl he lived on an 800 acre ranch and was delighted to have someone to talk cars with, even though I was a total stranger. The story goes on from there, but bottom line is Earl later took me into his small garage and showed me his pride and joy, a '70 Miura S, which he had owned for over 30 years.

I have shown my Miura at your event twice, and it is basically except for major detailing an original car. The paint, chrome, interior and even the tires are original. Last year I replaced and rebuilt many of the suspension components, as I enjoy driving the car. When doing so I of course detailed the areas I was working on, and repainted areas of the frame and undercarriage before reassembling the suspension. I don't know if this would prohibit it from being considered "original", but as stated before the paint, trim, upholstery, and even the tires are factory original.

Regardless of whether or not the car is used in the centerpiece display, I will still be participating in your event. My collection of cars has always focused on the low mileage, unrestored original cars, the ones I refer to as "the real deal". They are the ones to me that tell the real story of how they were originally built, of how they were a prized possession of an enthusiastic owner, and hopefully will continue to be preserved for future enthusiast to appreciate. I am delighted to see your event is drawing attention to this type of car!

Special thanks to:

Connie Meier (sister) Connie was a local news anchor in Medford Oregon who was able to piece together information as to who might own the car. She was the person who tracked Earl down and kept on top of the situation.

Jeff Stephan (good friend and Miura restoration expert) Without Jeff's hard work, mechanical expertise, technical knowledge, and perfectionist tendencies, my experience with the Miura would have never been as positive as it's been. Jeff knows Miuras better than anyone, and with his help I was able to keep the car as original and authentic as possible, while still being able to drive and enjoy it. The best compliment anyone has given me regarding the car was Jeff telling me it was fortunate the car ended up in my hands. He said almost anyone else would have sent it off to a restoration, shop for a complete restoration. He then went on to say it was amazing how I was able to see through over 30 years of dings, dents, rat droppings and 50 pounds of packed in Oregon dirt and mud from Earl's long dirt driveway and carefully preserve its original finishes and hardware to end up with an amazing

example of an original preserved Miura. I had a vision of what the car could be, but without Jeff's help it never could have happened.

Steve Brown (good friend-The Dent Mechanic) Steve is an artist when it comes to paintless dent repair. There were numerous dings and dents on almost every panel of the car. The paint was excellent, but without Steve's magic touch the car would never be as straight as it is today.

Michelle, Ryan and Allison (wife, son and daughter) I can't forget the family, who try to understand my passion for cars and let me indulge myself.

Earl Morris, the caretaker of the Miura for over 30 years. It still amazes me when I think of Earl and his dedication to the Miura. Earl an engineer by trade, recognized the significance of this car when it was new and decided he had to own one. He was not only familiar with the design and specifications of the car, but he actually enjoyed driving it as it was meant to be driven. When I first asked him (at this point he was in his 90s) what it was like to drive, his reply was "Well it's a hell of a car to drive, the problem is there isn't enough road. When I've had it up around 150mph there's still another gear but nowhere to use it!"

Jeff Meier

PS- The attached pictures are of Earl showing me his prized Lamborghini Miura