

My Neighbor The Sculptor

David Whitworth, May 2010



My neighbor John has a talent for sculpting large clay models, inspired by some funky looking cars and trucks in the neighborhood. Although he has given some of the models away to friends, he has never sold one and does not plan to do so. Instead, he plans to donate the collection to a children's hospital some day.

John recently presented me with a twenty inch kiln-fired clay of my 1952 Jaguar Mark VII (left). John's memories of his father's own Jaguar were stirred. It was a 1960 Mark II saloon, which had white paint and a tan interior.

"By 1967, my father had become lax about getting the car serviced. He let my older brother and I use the car. We ruined it." John graduated from High School in 1969. John's next car was one to get him to law school and back, a 1963 Volvo PV544, painted white, with a tan interior.

I'm fortunate to know John. I applaud his plan to donate his collection of clay to benefit children. Too bad he's not in a position to make a business of creating sculptures for auto enthusiasts. But I know his love of children may be his best reward.



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