

AMERICAN



We all know these places exist: collections that are private and very personal. Sometimes it's a single rare car with some crazy important automotive history. It could be a collection of factory lightweight Fords high up in an Appalachian estate or classic straight-axle Corvettes buried in a garage under tons of swap meet fodder only to be discovered by family members after the passing of a dear relative.

But even more common are collections that were not happenstance but totally premeditated—gatherings of cool cars hidden by their owners for their own pleasure. Sure they are valuable—priceless in many cases. But none of the folks noted here are rich guys in the normal definition of the car auction stereotype—they don't buy and sell cars like pork belly futures on the commodities exchange. They really love their cars, and in many ways, the cars define who they are. Their owners entertain offers but rarely sell. It's just not part of the plan. Take a look behind the closed doors of these amazing hidden collections.

➤ There is a wide variety of cars under construction at any one time at Rob's place, including this big-block Nova and the '62 red-on-red, matching-number, fuel-injected Corvette in the background.