

The Ken Brownlee Auction Story

For Ken Brownlee, Ford was the only car manufacturer there was. When he was a kid, he would sneak out and run down to the local dealership to see the new models and watch the mechanics do their mechanical magic. When he could, he bought a Model A Ford and dated his wife, Evelyn in that car. Ken always had a project going, if he wasn't racing Go-Carts or going to the races. His wife, wasn't much fond of the old cars, but enjoyed going with him and the family to parades, car shows, and looking at cars. Quite often, she would sit in the truck with the kids. Ken was an electrician and this gave him the opportunity to look for the next project. He would go to the café's and ask if there were any old Ford dealers in the area and he spent many hours buying their left over and NOS inventory, advertising, and other items. Anything Ford. The kids started coming and they had 3 kids that they also involved in the hobby. There wasn't a local parade that he didn't have them help with the Model T Ford Fire Truck throwing candy and running the music or shooting confetti out of a reversed vacuum he rigged up. He loved Ford so much that he bought a building and converted it into a Ford dealership, complete with a parts department from all the NOS parts that he had bought through the years. He called his building, "Kenny's Old Ford".

He decorated with Gas Pumps, signs, and other advertising, too. Ken loved Mustangs and has several of them. When his son Jeff, was about 17, they went looking for a Shelby. Ken knew of one that was nearby, that was in a garage. They went over there, and bought the car. Jeff, had a contract for title with his father. There were no easy ways, hard work, was his motto. Jeff lost a job and couldn't pay his Dad, so Ken took back the car. This is the 1966 Shelby GT350 that we are selling on the sale. The car has been in the family since the early 1970's and with some research, has been one on the registry that hasn't been seen since sold new in Chicago. The car is all original, except Jeff put a backseat in the car after they bought it, and there are some other little things from being a kid and owning a mustang. This rare car will be offered at the auction, NO Reserve and with all documentation.

Ken accumulated other vehicles, including Model A Coupe, Roadster, several mustangs, and over the years, hundreds of NOS parts, advertising, literature, and more. The kids said that Ken loved music and would sing really loud in church. Days were filled with swap meets, family, and enjoying life. Ken was married 65 years to his wife. She passed away, but he still celebrated their anniversary. The cars occupied most of his time, and he enjoyed his hobby till he passed away. Everything he had had the Blue Ford oval on it. He was Ford to the core.

The family has decided to sell Ken's collection on September 17th, 2016 in Smithville, Missouri at his "Kenny's Old Fords" location. Everything will be sold NO reserve to the highest bidder and no buyer's premium for on-site bidders. VanDerBrink Auctions will conduct the auction that will start at 9am. The collection has many vehicles, accessories, hundreds of NOS parts, Used parts, Literature, and much more at auction. Be on time! We're kicking things off right away. There will be a preview on Friday September 16th, 2016 from 10 to 7pm. One of the highlights of the auction is the 1966 Shelby GT350. This car is fully documented and in its original Ivy Green paint. It's an amazing car that will be a good addition to any collection. Stay the day for advertising, cars, and all those great parts. There will be online bidding for vehicles, some of the parts, and accessories. Many of the parts will be sold to onsite bidders only. There is something for everyone. You won't want to miss this auction. For more information, catalog, video, and more on this and other auctions. VanDerBrink Auctions 605-201-7005 or www.vanderbrinkauctions.com