

Reed K. Martin has Passed

Reed Kittell Martin, born in Indiana in 1946, died on October 1, 2024 (He was 78).



Reed Martin, 1946 – 2024

Reed was a member of the GWC for over 40 years, from 1976 – 2017. During that time he owned a number of Model As, most of which were open cars. He also had an impressive collection of miniature engines and “Spindizzies” – those tethered gas engine powered model cars. He also had an equally impressive collection of tethered gas powered boats... which he told us he used to race in the reflecting pool in DC. On several occasions, he brought in examples of these great collectibles to share with the membership.

In going through past rosters, I discovered this list of motorized vehicles that he owned in 1995:

- 1899 Dedion Bouton Motor-Tricycle
- 1931 Deluxe Roadster
- 1899 Fugier Quadricycle
- 1904 Humber Tri-Car
- 1903 Humber Tricycle
- 1903 Knox 3 wheel
- 1901 Oldsmobile Curved Dash
- 1901 Orient Tricycle
- 1912 R.C.H. Roadster
- 1905 Reo Roadster

Reed and his late wife Barbara drove their 1903 Knox 3 wheeler in the British Royal Automobile Club’s 92nd annual 53 mile London to Brighton run – referred to by the British as the “World’s Largest Motoring Spectacle” - in November, 1989. (<https://www.chicagotribune.com/1990/08/12/beating-a-path-to-brighton/>)

I remember he told me that run was bitter cold with a wet whipping wind... but that they were among those who finished.

Reed was also a master banjo musician – known as one of the best “claw hammer style” players in the United States, if not the world.

Boy what a life... with almost all the toys.

Jim Gray
Sunshine