

Larry Quay
July 11, 2018

Larry was born in New York City in 1951 and his family moved to Southern California when he was nine years old. He grew up with two brothers in San Dimas. After graduating community college he joined the Air Force and was stationed in Texas and Hawaii. After getting out he entered the Art Center in Pasadena where he received a de-gree in photography. After a few jobs with engineering firms, he found his true calling – teaching photography at Edison High School in Huntington Beach, California. It was something he truly enjoyed. While working at one of the engineering firms he met his wife, Sally, and introduced her into the world of classic cars where she shared his passion.

Larry's father was a mechanic at a Ford dealership and that's where his fascination began. He would often go into the dealership to help his Dad whenever he could and that's where he picked up his mechanical skills. When he was in junior high school his Dad heard about a Cobra roadster at a Ford dealer in Pomona and they drove over to look at it. That car would eventually be purchased by SAAC member Hank Williams, who still owns it, today.

Larry bought a '69 GT500 convertible and over a ten year period collected the parts necessary to painstakingly restore it to concours perfection. After selling it, he purchased another '69 Shelby, this time a red GT350 fastback.



His goal was to completely restore it after he retired from teaching this year.

Larry was an early SAAC member and attended many conventions no matter where they were held, usually driving to them because he enjoyed seeing the different states and visiting the various car museums along the way. Everything he did seemed to be an excuse to take more of the pictures he was so good at taking. A lot of them found their way to SAAC HQ and can be found in various club publications.

His knowledge of 1969-70 Shelbys increased to the point where he was asked to serve as a concours judge. He enjoyed the judging experience because it helped him expand his knowledge of the cars.

He was very active in the Cobra Owners Club of America, Orange County and served as its President for a while. He was also very active in the Southern California Cougar Club. He could always be counted on to help out at car shows and regional meets. He was one of the best photographers at car shows as you will ever find. One of his favorite events was Fabulous Fords at Knotts Berry Farm. Larry also had a passion for Hot Rods too. There were not many Grand National Roadster Shows at the Pomona Fairplex he did not miss.

Larry was also a big NASCAR fan and attended events at Riverside Raceway as far back as the early 1960s. When California Speedway was built he rarely missed a race there. His latest driver he loved was Bad Brad in the #2 Miller Lite Ford.

For the past year he courageously battled colon cancer. He was 67 when he passed away. His wide, warm smile and grizzly bear hand-shake will be missed by everyone who knew him.

