

Ted Becker

This month's "Member Spotlight" focuses on Ted Becker. Ted currently owns two 1957 Buicks: one is a Special 2 door hard top which he has owned since 1981, and a Roadmaster convertible which is a work in progress. Completion is still about 2 year away. Ted also had a 1947 Packard but sold it just last year.

When asked which was his all time favorite car, he said that it was his 1969 Ford Torino 2 door fastback. This was a new car he ordered in his senior year in college. He drove this car for about 5 years, then took it off the road, juiced it up and did some drag racing for 3 years. After that he just parted out the car and moved on.

Ted joined the Gateway Chapter eight years ago and has been a loyal member ever since.

While he is now retired, Ted worked for 36 years as a mechanical engineer, putting in 5 years at Ford and 31 years at Caterpillar. He worked in the design and development of both gas and diesel engines. Since retirement he has worked as an engineering consultant in problem solving for Ford, NASCAR and others.

Ted's hobbies are golf, grandchildren and being very active in his church. Ted spends a lot of his time working in his 50' X 30' size garage. Remember the 1957 Roadmaster convertible?

It's hard to say just when Ted became interested in old cars. As early as age 14, he began working on his dad's car and has been working on them and appreciating them since then. The first old car he bought was a 1956 Ford, and he took the engine apart just to see what it looked like inside and what made it run.

Ted and wife Helen have been married for 41 years. They have 3 children and 5 great grandchildren.

We are lucky to have such a knowledgeable and experienced car guy in our club!

