

RPM FEATURE ARTICLE: “My Car Story... *The Purchase of my C8!*”

by Bob Cirilli.

Wow where do I start, I guess when I first heard the Mid - Engine was actually going to be built. I was perfectly content with my barn of Corvettes and other cars. My interest was high about the technology but I was pretty content with what I had. As a few friends began ordering I was dismayed at the apparent confusion at GM between unions and Covid-19 issues. As with any new model there were some expected issues. After all the C8 was the biggest jump forward that I can remember.



At any rate some C8's began arriving at Tom Henry Chevrolet and I was truly impressed with what I saw but still not tempted to order. I was currently working on a 65 Coupe that I recently bought. We couldn't even sit in the C8's that came in. The service department was the only group that could sit in the cars because they have to install the options and initiate software to be sure the C8's performed as GM intended. Then we heard that some preproduction C8's would be sent to each

dealer. When I learned about this, I asked Tom if I could drive it when it came in and he said yes. A lot of time passed and finally one came in.

As you could imagine I was very excited by this time just to experience it. I left the dealership for a short drive. I was completely aware of the smooth acceleration and the incredible cornering ability immediately. This car was different. When the C7 came out it had a lot of press about improvements. The C8 didn't need that. All I had to do was get behind the wheel. That had to be the shortest test drive I have ever taken.

When I returned from the test- drive I decided I had to get one. My first to-do however, was to sell some current cars to make room and as argument to justify the biggest car purchase of my life. I sold my 1931 Chevy Roadster and decided I would also sell my 1964 Corvette Convertible. I advertised it one day on Craigslist and sold it. Just lucky the right person saw it when it listed.

31 Chevy Roadster



64 Convertible



The '31 was a hard decision to sell, but trends are changing so fast. I used to be able to drive it on most tours and local events. Club members that used to drive the 20's and 30's cars are now switching to 50's and

newer. Aging is also a part of it, other drivers are also a lot of it. They don't realize you can't stop them like newer cars.

Now at this point the 2020 orders were in and I knew I had to wait for the 2021 production. In November I got a December allocation, my order was confirmed and my C8 came in early January. Production issues now seem to be worked out and about 180 Corvettes are being built every day.

I didn't get a lot extra's on the C8. It's Sebring Orange Tintcoat with a Black interior. It's the 2LT, with Performance exhaust and red engine cover. I got the factory charger and had a Z51 Spoiler installed. I don't plan on using it on the track so the \$6K for the Z51 package didn't make sense to me.

I was lucky to have about a week of rare good January weather and I put 130 miles on it. I'm looking forward to spring, until then I'll just go out to the garage and drool.

Red Engine Cover



Z51 Spoiler



Bob Cirilli