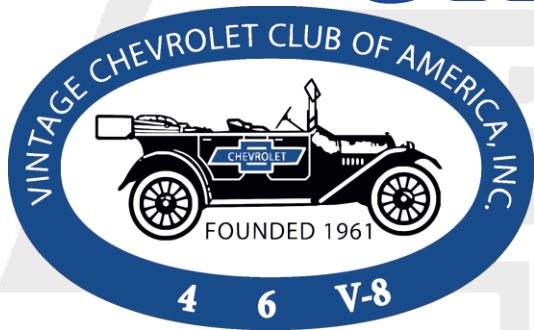


CHEVY CHATTER



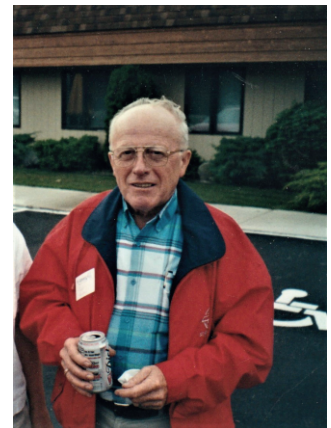
Lower Michigan Region

'Mr. Chevrolet' Pinky Randall dies at 94

Story by John Gunnell of Old Cars Weekly

Murl (Pinky) G. Randall, a lifelong resident of Houghton Lake, Mich., passed away in Pensacola, Fla., on Jan. 9, 2022. In the old-car hobby, he was best known as M.G. “Pinky” Randall, as well as “Mr. Chevrolet.” Over his 94-year lifespan, Pinky Randall owned just under 200 cars, of which 180 were Chevrolet models from the earliest to latest models.

Randall was a veteran of World War II and Korean War military service, and a grocery industry professional. He served as president of The Antique Automobile Club of America (AACA) in 1985. He was also an AACA National Director from 1980 to 1994 and a Director of the AACA Library & Research Center from 1988-1992.



Pinky Randall circa 2001



The Little Roadster on display at Sloan Museum

Randall owned a very rare 1912 Little Roadster. When William C. Durant was forced out of General Motors in 1910, he bought up Republic, Little and Mason automakers. He then hired race driver Louis Chevrolet to help design a car bearing his own name. The Little Roadster was the only car the Chevrolet-Little-Republic consortium had to sell in 1912. Randall would eventually offer his example of a Little Roadster to the Alfred P. Sloan Museum.

Another of Randall's favorite cars was a 1932 Chevrolet coupe that he first spotted on his quarter-mile

walk to school when he was 4 years old. Randall kept track of that car for many years and was disappointed when it was sold and disappeared. In 1948, he ran across it and bought for \$30, which he had to borrow and spend a year repaying.



Pinky and Joyce with their Chevy Superior Roadster at St. Ignace in 2001

Randall and his wife, Joyce, started collecting “everything Chevrolet,” he would say. The items ranged from license plate topper to toys. “I’d watch the newspapers and if I saw a Chevrolet item, whether it be a yardstick or cap or pencil or what, I had to have it,” Randall often said. Before long, the basement of his home was essentially a Chevrolet museum.

Editor's Note: Pinky and Joyce Randall (VCCA# 37) are charter members of the Lower Michigan Region, we owe them both immense gratitude for helping to coordinate our region back in 1965 and for being active members to this day!

Joyce, you and Pinky will always have a special place within the LMR!

Pinky Randall

Continued from pg. 1

Randall's affection for Chevrolet was well-recognized by the automaker, and in 1996, he made arrangements with Chevrolet to buy the last rear-wheel-drive Impala SS ever built. At that time, "Mr. Chevrolet's" collection numbered 46 vehicles and included such gems as a 1914 Baby Grand, a rare 1930 roadster pickup truck and a green 1969 Corvair convertible that was one of the last eight Corvairs made. Joyce always said that she didn't know anything about cars and was "just along for the ride," but the couple amassed such a fine collection that Chevrolet eventually bought the bulk of it.



Pinky picking up the last Impala SS in 1996

In early Spring 2019, Randall heard that all Impala production was going to end that fall. He then arranged with Terry Corrigan's Classic Chevrolet dealership in Lake City, Mich., to buy that last Impala — a Cajun Red 2020 sedan. Delivery of the car was delayed by the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, but Randall landed it in time to enjoy it. 

Services were held January 16th & 17th in Houghton Lake.

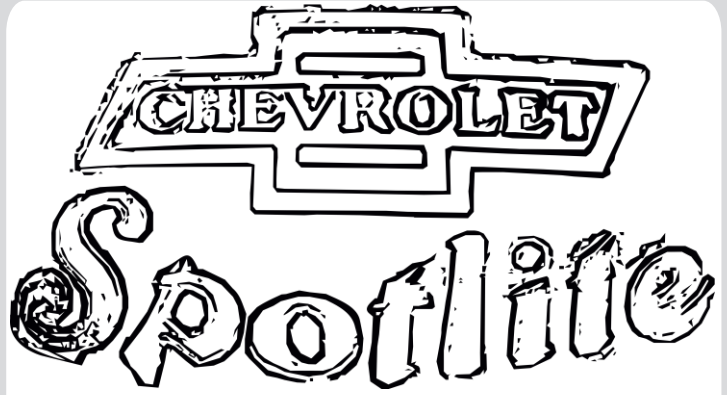
This story can be found online at:

oldcarsweekly.com/news/mr-chevrolet-pinky-randall-has-passed-away

All photos are courtesy of Old Cars Weekly

Editor's Note: I hope to make Chevrolet Spotlight a regular feature of this newsletter, but I need your help. Please send me a story about a car you own or once did. Pictures are also appreciated.

*Email: Trreinke@gmail.com
Mail: 29900 33 Mile Rd
Richmond, MI 48062*



Brian Granger's 1965 Corvair

This is what it looked like a few days after I brought my Corvair home in the March of 1987 for



\$350.00. It had been in storage for 12 years. With fresh gas and a battery it started right up and I drove it home, gave it a bath and started taking items off.

Each item was cleaned - restored and bagged. Body work was finished in March of 1992 and it was put it back together. I have been driving it ever since. This is my second Corvair. I bought a '67 Monza coupe in '81 & drove it most of summer, but had no storage, so I sold it to a friend of my brother, Bruce, who needed a car. I sold the '67 for what I had into it. A couple of years later I found it in Clarence Straus's backyard being taken apart.

Year: 1965
Model: 500 Coupe

Fun Facts: 1965 was the 1st year for the 2nd Generation Corvair. This car was built on 6/30/1965 in Ypsilanti. Sold on 8/18/1965 by Summerfield Chevrolet in Flint.



Lower Michigan Region, VCCA 2022 Calendar

April 14th: Spring Meeting – Junction of Hope, Layton Corners – 1pm Board Meeting/2pm General Membership Meeting

May 20th-21st: Dustoff Tour

June 25th/26th: Sloan AutoFair– Flint Cultural Center – 1pm General Membership Meeting in the Sloan Museum

July 17th: Picnic

July 29th/30th: VCCA Central Meet – See March G&D for corrected details

July 31st – August 5th: VCCA 60th Anniversary Meet – Bowling Green, Ky
See G&D for details

August 20th: Back to the Bricks – Saginaw St., Flint MI

September 18th: Golden Memories – Flint Cultural Center – 1pm General Membership Meeting in the Sloan Museum

October 15th: Mothball Tour

November 5th: Banquet

Correction: The KAARC Winter Swap Meet in Kalamazoo is Friday and Saturday, February 4 & 5 2022

Note: All dates are tentative and subject to change

From Behind the Steering Wheel

with Brian Granger



1. Can you believe we are a month into the New Year?
2. The February G&D will have registration info for Bowling Green. Who is going? Does anyone want to travel as a group? Bruce & I will be driving down in his '75 Caprice (No plan at this time to attend Central Meet). We did this, with a group from Flint, in '91 to Nashville & '96 to Rapid City.
3. The club has lost four current & former members in the last four months. Our first meeting, as a group, will not happen until April. Until then, please keep in touch with any member of the board. Let us know how you and your family are doing, new to you vehicles, graduations, etc.
4. Speaking of the April Meeting in Layton Corners, we are still in need of a new secretary. Many, including myself, have done the job. Do I have a volunteer?
5. Winter is a great time to clean out the garage or basement. What have you laying around that you no longer need for your vehicle? Write an ad for the newsletter and send to our editor. It is FREE.
6. Have a safe Ground Hog Day and Happy Valentine's Day.

!!! Important Central Meet Info:

There may be changes coming to 2022 Central Meet. If you have already made hotel reservations please contact:
Pat Mehl (269) 217-1253 for instructions.

If you have not made hotel reservations for the Central Meet, please refrain from doing so until more information is available.

The information in the February G&D is already outdated. Corrected info will be in the MARCH G&D & Chevy Chatter. Please wait until then to make any plans.

Note: This does **NOT** effect the Anniversary Meet. It will continue as previously announced.

Help Needed: The Lower Michigan Region (that's us!) is in charge of field entrance check for the Central Meet. We are in need to a few volunteers to help run the check-in including a chairman. If you are willing to assist,
Contact: Tim Mehl (269) 200-3012 or
TLMEHL54@hotmail.com

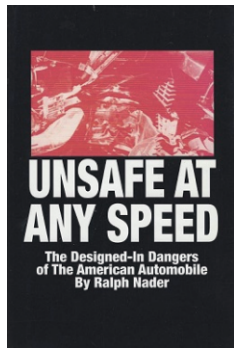
On This Date in History:

February 10, 1966 - Ralph Nader testifies for the first time in front of the US Senate about the unsafe practices being used by the US auto industry.

Nader believed that the US auto companies were focusing their designs on looks and performance instead of driver safety. His book "Unsafe at any Speed: The Designed-in Dangers of the American Automobile" had been first published in November of 1965. The first chapter of the book is entitled "The Sporty Corvair The One Car Accident" and focused on the poor handling of the car if tires were inflated improperly. The Corvair would become the face of Ralph Nader's crusade against the US Auto Industry.



Nader in front of the US Senate in 1966



Cover of Nader's famous book

In 1972 a report released by the US National Highway Traffic Safety Administration exonerated the Corvair. After reviewing "extensive data from General Motors and other sources" and testing conducted by Texas A&M University. The report stated "The 1960-1963 Corvair compared favorably with the other contemporary vehicles" and "The handling and stability performance of 1960-1963 Corvair does not result in an abnormal potential for loss of control or rollover and it is at least as good as the performance of some contemporary vehicles both foreign and domestic."

[source] National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (July 1972). "PB 211-015: Evaluation of the 1960-1963 Corvair Handling and Stability"s

Happy Birthday!

- 1 Pat Mehl
- 2 Jeff Salz
- 3 Bob Sovis
- 10 Wendy Whalen
- 12 Joseph Scheuring
- 18 Norbert Kollin
- 19 Marie Hagen
- 22 Bill R. Jusela
- 22 Harry Snider
- 23 Diane Sovis
- 28 Jim Carpenter

Happy Anniversary!

- Jim & Cherie Johnson
February 9, 1973
- Bill & Diane Bullard
February 11, 1961
- Jim & Verna Schott
February 20, 1965
- Andy & Bekka Mehl
February 25, 2006

Welcome Aboard!

Bob and Mabel Beam
of Birch Run. They have a nice collection of 1932/1933 cars and trucks and a 1918 Four-Ninety

2022 Board of Directors

Director	Brian Granger	Grangerb59@yahoo.com
Asst. Director	Bill Anderson	old50grit@comcast.net
Secretary	Vacant	
Treasurer	Pat Mehl	Jakobs.grama@gmail.com

Members-At-Large

Bruce Granger	Brucegranger@yahoo.com
Robin Reinke	(989) 513-0590
Jim Schott	JamesSchott@outlook.com

Ex-Officio	Tim Reinke	Treinke@gmail.com
Membership	Bill Anderson	old50grit@comcast.net
Chatter Editor	Tim Reinke	treinke@gmail.com
Sunshine	Denice Thomas	Denicet10345@yahoo.com
Historian	Bruce Granger	Brucegranger@yahoo.com
	Brian Granger	GrangerB59@yahoo.com
Sloan Rep	Jim Schott	JamesSchott@outlook.com

The purpose of the VCCA is to promote interest in the preservation and restoration of vintage Chevrolet manufactured vehicles and GMC manufactured trucks. Ownership of a vintage Chevrolet or GMC is not a prerequisite for membership. LMR region dues are \$20 per year. To become a member, an applicant must be a National VCCA member in good standing. National dues are \$40 yearly.

Thank you to the following sponsor of the LMR Chevy Chatter

www.LMRVCCA.org

*Follow the VCCA on Instagram @VCCA_Official
and visit the VCCA facebook page often!!*



Printmill
printing | graphics

4001 Portage Street

Kalamazoo, MI 49001

Phone: 269-382-0428

www.printmill.com

**Chevy Chatter Editor
29900 33 Mile Rd
Richmond, MI 48062**