

1969 PONTIAC GTO Ram Air V- Bill & Rita Schultz

Written by Double Dragon

Friday, 15 August 2014 13:22 - Last Updated Thursday, 21 May 2020 22:10

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Of all the owners of this Crystal Blue Turquoise Pontiac GTO Ram Air V historic heavyweight from the pinnacle of Pontiac's performance years no one has owned it as long as current owners Bill and Rita. Of all the engines that this GTO has hosted in its engine bay over the years no engine has resided underhood longer than the Ram Air V currently in the car.



This Crystal Blue Turquoise Pontiac GTO was thrashed on the strip for magazine articles and then thumped on the streets of Detroit, Michigan before Bill bought it in 1980. By then this GTO's original Ram Air IV and subsequent Ram Air V engines were long gone. After a few years of using his new GTO as a driver, Bill embarked upon a restoration.

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Bill recreated the long gone RA V engine using authentic RA V parts. Bill wants this car to preserve this highwater mark in Pontiac performance history when this car was packing a RA V and tested for magazine articles. Bill's GTO has the correct parts and paint. Note the RAM AIR V logo on the hood scoop beside the hood tachometer in the photo below.



What makes this GTO so important is that it showcased both the RA IV and RA V engines. The RA IV made it into enough production GTOS to keep the GTO competitive with some monster engines from competing manufacturers. After showing off the legendary RA IV for the magazine testers this car went on to house the RA V for another series of tests. The RA V was the last and greatest of the high compression engines Pontiac built to dominate the original musclecar era.

The next series of legendary engines released from Pontiac were the 1971-2 455 H.O. and the 1973-4 Super Duty 455 both of which shone brightly but were restricted by lower compression and other emissions control compromises. The 1969 Ram Air V was intended to finally re establish Pontiac at the top of the musclecar heap by providing professional racers with a Pontiac engine capable of thumping the fabulous engines populating the top rungs of the drag strips and road courses of the day.

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My dad had a 1969 Pontiac GTO Ram Air V-6. It was a really nice car and it was a real fun to drive.

It was a real fun to drive and it was a real nice car. It was a real fun to drive and it was a real nice car.

This is a really nice car and it was a real fun to drive. It was a real nice car and it was a real fun to drive.

Bill Schultz is the author of this article. He is a car enthusiast and he has written many articles about cars.