

1980 CHEVROLET Malibu Classic- Elinor

Written by Double Dragon

Friday, 30 September 2011 19:32 - Last Updated Thursday, 04 July 2013 22:22

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oneownercollectorcar.com

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This sad story stirs up some questions regarding recycling. What is actually better for the environment in the long run?



Traditional scrap yards provide parts to keep old vehicles running longer and hence avoid the environmental side effects of manufacturing new cars with all the industrial waste this creates. New cars use more petroleum products and rare metals in the manufacturing process than older vehicles did. The creation of a new car probably exceeds the environmental damage that an old car that is rarely driven can create through its emissions.

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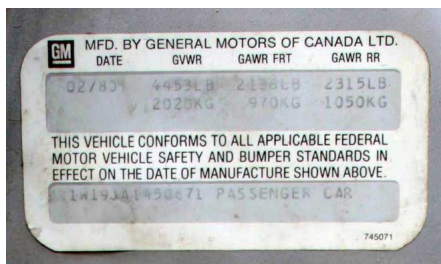
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The scrap- it philosophy intentionally destroys old cars completely in order to deprive owners of similar old cars from obtaining parts and hence quickens the demise of older cars. This is supposed to be a good thing because of the higher emissions old cars produce. The stimulation of new car buying is important to the government which is attempting to revive the economy.

In this particular story the destruction of a car is going to result in the former owner, Elinor receiving credits for membership in a car co-op so that she no longer owns a car at all. This means that she may drive less because it's less convenient, and that when she does drive, the car produces less emissions. However, in the last year of ownership she only drove about 500 miles. The main savings will be personal, in that she no longer has to pay car insurance on a yearly basis. Its' debatable if 500 miles of driving in an older car can create the same pollutants that the byproducts of building a new car create.

The 267 engine was getting about 13 MPG in the city according to Elinor. The EPA sticker rated the 2 barrel V8 267 at 17 MPG City and 24 MPG Hwy with the 3 speed automatic which is mainly related to the size and weight of the car since the larger 305 returned identical EPA MPG figures in this car. The revised EPA system downgraded this to 15/22. Using Elinors' low figure, the car was using about 38 gallons of gas per year.



This 1980 Malibu Classic began life in February of 1980 at the Oshawa, Ontario GM plant. It was shipped to Dueck which is a well known large dealership in Vancouver, BC. The metal plate attached to the left side of the trunk lid was a common sight in Vancouver back in the 1980s. See the story on this dealership which traces back to 1926 in the DEALERSHIPS section of this website.

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The car is a 1980 Chevrolet Malibu Classic, a four-door sedan. It is a classic car, and the nameplate is a 'DUECK VANCOUVER'.



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