

Massey said the car has become part of the family with him attending prom in it, and on Christmas Eve, 1991, he took his girlfriend (Vicki) to the look-off on Burnt Mountain in it. "After watching the red light in town change a few times, I proposed to her in that car and she said yes. "More than 30 years later, happy to say both are still around."

While Massey said the car is primarily built to be fast off the line, he did change the standard speedometer which tops out at 100 MPH for one that goes up to 160 MPH, though the career law enforcement officer said he rarely speeds.

However, as a college student he did have a wreck coming home from West Georgia, 'I made the decision to pass a slow moving commercial van, however, unbeknownst to me there were four or five cars ahead of him. No problem, had plenty of long straight highway so I as stood on the 'go' pedal." Unfortunately the lead car in the group, a large 1970s Ford LTD, decided to make a left hand turn. "I left 210 feet of skid mark before impact and 28 feet after," according to what the state patrol officer told him later.

Massey said no one appeared seriously hurt and both cars were still driveable. After stopping he saw several classic little old ladies getting out of the LTD and adjusting their oversized pocket books. "One of them looked at me and said, 'little

fella [which Massey is definitely not) you have smashed up your sports car."

But the older male driver was still sitting in his seat with a death grip on the steering wheel. "One of the ladies said, 'oh he's okay. He just had heart surgery a few weeks ago.'" Luckily everyone was truly okay and Massey drove the rest of the way to Jasper in his car.

It had only done body damage but that required a new rear panel and a paint job at the Marvin Lawson Body Shop. Massey had the gold paint and the Trans Am logo behind the spoiler left untouched to preserve the decal.

For Massey and his family, cars are a binding



The Diamond Truck Velour, was put in around the late 1980s and still looks new.



A little something extra, a 125 horse nitrous kit with tank in the trunk.

force. "My dad was very automotive. He has forget more about a car than I'll ever know."

And he says his sons are following in his footsteps with Austin also drag racing and Adam interested in cars and the detailing.

Massey said he has "too many miles and memories to list but all are good. I am so very blessed to still own my first car. My youngest son, Adam, has already laid claim one day to own this ride. Hope it brings him as many great memories and smiles as it has me over all these years."

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