

Doug and Reyanne Freeman

Doug was born in Springfield, Vermont, and attended Springfield High School where he was the trainer for the football and basketball teams. He also played the trumpet in the school band.

Reyanne was born in Merced and attended Capuchino High School where she played the flute in the band. The band was honored with trips to the Far Western Band Review a few times. She also played in the California Youth Symphony. But one of the most exciting events was when she (and the marching band) played in the inaugural parade of John F. Kennedy.

Doug heeded the call "to go west young man" and that is what brought him to California – that and to attend Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. While there he majored in Aeronautical Engineering. Reyanne also attended there majoring in Social Science.

But it wasn't at Cal Poly where they met – it was on a blind date. It was love at first sight and they continued dating for 3 years before they married on August 20, 1964 in San Bruno.

They have 3 daughters – the twins Kristie and Kerie and their third daughter, Kimberly. They also have two grandchildren – Kailie and Nickolas.

Doug worked for the Southern Pacific Railroad until 1964 and then worked for Sprint which was owned by Southern Pacific. He retired in 2004. Reyanne is still working part time as Controller at Brady Marketing.

They both have hobbies outside of Model "A"ing. Doug collects "O" gauge model trains and every year there is a train around the Christmas tree. He also enjoys hunting, woodworking and baking pies. Reyanne enjoys reading and taking cruises (she'd love to go to Italy), but her favorite "hobby" is spending time with her children and grandchildren.

When Doug was still in high school, he went on a cross country trip with his uncle. This started his interest in Model A's since they kept their eyes open for barns and other places that might be hiding them. They found what they thought was the running gear of a 1929 station wagon. This was given to Doug and he started the "restoration" which consisted of taking everything apart, cleaning it real good and then reassembling it. In his senior year in high school his frame was entered in the local parade with a sign saying "So little done, so much to do."

Doug actually became a member of MAFCA in 1960. In 1963 he bought a '29 roadster. It was "rust" colored (guess why) and the running boards were so sharp you could cut yourself if not careful.

The Freeman's joined the San Francisco Model A Chapter where Doug was President and Editor at the same time. Reyanne was Treasurer. They became Diablo A members in the early 70's. Doug has been both Vice President and Treasurer in our club.

In 1972, at the MAFCA Nationals in Seattle, they took second place with a car he started restoring in 1968.

I asked them what was the most exciting thing they could remember in their lives – and almost simultaneously they said the birth of the twins. You must remember back then people didn't know quantity or gender of their babies. It came as quite a pleasant surprise to both of them.

What you might not know about Doug – he has driven a 1909 Model K Stanley Steamer. He also was the get away driver when he and a friend stole a motometer from a car sitting in a field.

Again, Marianne and I really enjoyed interviewing another Diablo A's family. And when originally asked to be interviewed, Doug said that he wasn't very interesting. I disagree.

