

XKs Staff Biography, Michael Marter

Name: Michael Marter

Position at XKs Unlimited: V.P. Purchasing, Product Development, Warehouse, Web and Publications Content

Birthplace: Santa Paula, Calif. (but grew up in Santa Barbara, Calif.)

Birthday: December 27, 1961

Start Date with XKs Unlimited: March 12, 1990

Family: Married, two teenage sons.

Education: Santa Barbara High School 1980; AA, Santa Barbara City College, General Studies; B.S., Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Journalism

Favorite Movies: "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid"; "The Straight Story"; "Breaking Away"; "American Graffiti"

Favorite Books: "The Monkey Wrench Gang"; "Desert Solitaire"; "Three Cups of Tea"; "To Kill a Mocking Bird"

Favorite Musicians/Musical Group(s): Neil Young, Miles Davis, Stan Getz (just about anything but rap).

Interests (other than cars, of course): World War II aircraft, architecture, design, woodworking

My First Car: 1960 Austin-Healey 3000 BN7

My Favorite Jaguar: C-Type (because it's the most pure Jaguar design ever)

My Top-Ten Vintage Race Car Collection Would Include: Alfa Romeo 159 Alfetta, Gurney Eagle V-12 F1, 1967 Ferrari 312 F1, Ferrari 312T2 F1, Ford GT40 MK IV, Ferrari P3/4, Ferrari Dino 206SP, Jaguar C-Type, Jaguar D-Type, Porsche 917K, Ferrari 250 GTO (even though I am too tall to fit in half of these ...). Yes, my collection goes to 11.

My Top-Ten Vintage Street Car Collection Would Include: Lamborghini Miura SV, Ferrari 275 GTB/4, Ferrari 512 Boxer, Ferrari 250 GT Lusso, Alfa Romeo Giulietta Sprint, Ferrari Dino 246 GT #03726 & a certain Ferrari 308 GTB (both formerly owned by my late dad).

Current Street Car I Most Lust After: Ferrari 458 Italia

My Favorite Jaguar-Related Experience: Driving XKs Unlimited owner Jason Len's XK-120 roadster to the Monterey Historics and back from San Luis Obispo (and having use of it during the weekend) when the event was last dedicated to Jaguar. I got to drive a real C-Type on the parade laps during the same weekend.

My Favorite Non-Jaguar-Related (automotive!) Experience: The times my dad and I spent together with his Dino and 308 (and any other time we spent together, for that matter); driving a Ferrari Daytona; riding in a P-51 Mustang and a B-17.

Favorite Childhood Vacation: Visiting my grandmother in Ketchum, Idaho.

Role Models Growing Up: My dad. He was a brilliant architect and the coolest guy on the planet. If I ever grow up to be half the man he was, I will consider myself a success. I miss him every day.