



Marcos GT Restoration

Part 1

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Presented to Suncoast British Car Club, February 2013

What was Marcos?



- Founded in 1959 by Jem Marsh and Frank Costin
- Jem Marsh:
 - Speedex race cars based on Austin 7 components
- Frank Costin:
 - WW2 de Havilland Mosquito fighter (mostly wood)
 - Designed the Lotus Mark VIII, Vanwall F1 car, and first Marcos GT (wood chassis)
 - Brother of Mike Costin (of Cosworth)
- Marcos was in business from '59 to '72; made ~1000 cars
- Early Marcos cars were raced by Jackie Oliver, Jackie Stewart, Derek Bell, & Jonathan Palmer
- 50th anniversary rally in 2009: ~250 cars attended

The Marcos "disease" struck early

1970 Marcos Mantis 2+2

Purchased new in England in 1970



Factory made 32

This is the only LHD

You can't have just one!

1970 Marcos 3-litre GT

Purchased Spring 2007



Drove to Sarasota Autumn 2007

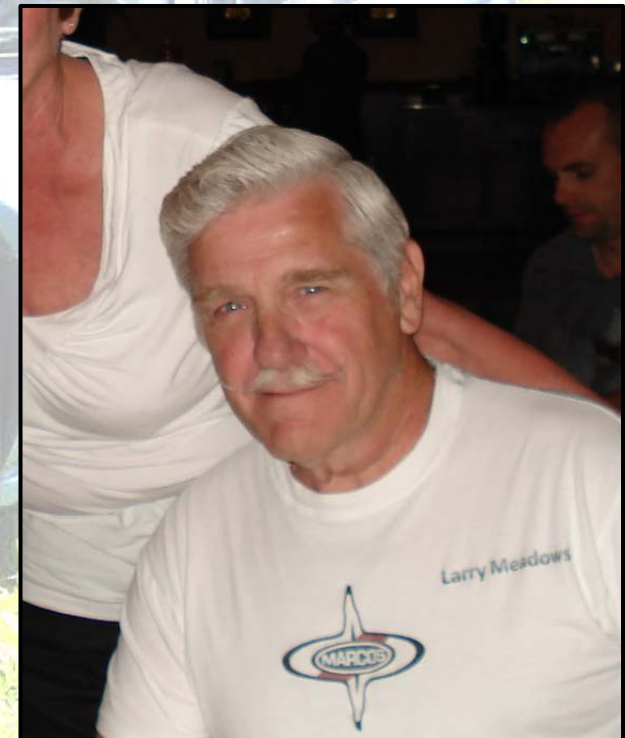
5 days, 1900 miles

Blue Ridge Parkway was the highlight of the trip



Restoration started spring of 2010

Restoration artist: Larry Meadows



This was the time to correct a few design shortcomings



The most worrisome was the gap between the windshield and the opening



Removing the body revealed significant rust



**A previous owner
had attempted
chassis repairs
using sheet metal!**



Engine & transmission removal



**Oil pan
skid plate**

6.30.2010

**Misaligned
motor mounts,
mismatched
engine drop
plates**



Chassis repair



7.19.2010



7.20.201



Chassis sandblasted, primed and painted original factory blue



**Front suspension: new bushes, trunions,
ball joints, tie rod ends, springs and shocks**



9.18.2010

Live rear axle, panhard rod, leading arms: new bushes, springs and shocks



Seat belt anchors