

# Nutz Letter

Fordnutz Cougar club is dedicated to the preservation of all Cougars and "Orphan" Ford and Mercury Vehicles

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1969 Performance Buyers Digest was provided by Alan Laary. The colour laser reproductions were done by Scott Ferguson. Scott has more neat stuff, ask him.	
Please send your articles for the Nutz Letter C/O the club address.	

## LINDA AND PHIL'S 68 COUGAR XR-7



Left, Linda, Twinkle, Phil and their XR-7 at the local A&W. Right, at the Can-Am Cougar Picnic 97.



Linda and Phil have been Cougar connoisseurs since the early 70's. Phil owned a 68 Cougar when he met, fell in love and then married Linda. After the wedding they left on their honeymoon in that Cougar, which, broke down and needed some repairs. Most of us have a love/dislike relationship with our cars. I have a theory that cars get jealous if you spend too much time with your significant other, or on another car. This rebellion usually takes the form of an automotive mishap (the car breaks down mechanically). Anyway, they got the Cougar going and continued on their honeymoon, although soon after the Cougar was replaced with a Montego. Linda and Phil decided to get another Cougar in 1996, they joined the Cougar Club of America and started to look for a clean Cougar. They came across an ad, in early 97, that was placed by Don Rush of West Coast Classic Cougar in Portland, Oregon, for a Bright Aqua Metallic, 68 XR-7. After speaking with Don, on the phone, they decided to drive down to Portland to look at the car. They were not disappointed with what they saw, they had the car checked out by a local mechanic, he did his thing and gave them the report. They told Don that they were going to buy it, but the bank would not transfer the funds, so, they drove back home to get the money. At the same time they were looking at the Cougar in Portland, I had been negotiating with Don about him buying a complete rare Saddle 68 XR-7-4 speed console, that I decided to sell. Don called Linda and Phil asking them to call me to see about bringing the console with them when they came down to pick up the car. Phil had fallen at the cabin at Okanagan lake the previous Summer shattering his foot, so he could not drive the Cougar back (it doesn't have power brakes) and Linda did not feel comfortable driving the car 400 miles back, so they thought that if I was a half decent person that maybe I could drive the Cougar back. We met and became instant friends, they asked if I would be interested in driving the cat back, and of course I said yes. We checked our schedules and made plans to drive down in their Chrysler, and the trip was set for the following week. It was getting late after we picked up the Cougar, so we decided to stay overnight at a hotel near Cougar, Washington. We continued our trip back in the morning after Phil and I went for a swim. Linda and Phil had already prepared for the border and Canada Customs, they paid the tax, etc and we were back on the road for Maple Ridge in no time flat, where we dropped the car off at the local inspection facility. They failed it because of ignorance, Cougar turn signals are supposed to be sequence guys, we educated them and it was passed after Lorne fixed a couple of minor items. Linda and Phil celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in June and the Cougar was a big part of it. The Cougar has also celebrated a couple of trophy wins at some car shows as well. The Cougar is now at it's Winter retreat, storage in Kamloops.

Photos and story by Scott Ferguson