



SHELBY

CARROLL SHELBY,

Second Lieutenant
World War II

Carroll Hall Shelby was born on January 11, 1923. His parents were Warren Shelby, a rural mail carrier in Leesburg, Texas and Eloise Lawrence. They moved to Dallas seven years later where Carroll graduated from high school.

He enlisted in the Army Air Corps in November 1941 with training at Lackland Air Force Base near San Antonio, TX. Men were enlisting into the Army Air Corp during World War II in the thousands. As a flight instructor Lt Shelby trained new cadets to how to fly an airplane in a dogfight. These Cadets would go on to fly in combat in P-51s, P-38s B-17 and many other airplanes. Due to his great flying abilities the Army Air Corps made him a test pilot. Carroll Shelby did not leave the U.S. during WW II. Carroll Shelby left the Air Force as a Second Lieutenant, and the fast lane of flying and became a world-class racecar driver and designer.

Shelby always kept a pencil and paper on a nightstand next to his bed, in case he had an inspiration during the

night, and one morning awakened to find the name "Cobra" written on it. He had always wanted to build his own sport car" and this would be its name."

The Shelby Mustangs of 1965 through 1970 were the products of Ford's great success with the Mustangs. The sporty looking sales sensation of 1964 didn't have much of a performance image. Ford decided to get it accepted for sports car racing but failed. They asked Shelby to help them and before you knew it there was a factory at the Los Angeles, California airport pumping out a couple of hundred GT350s a month. Pretty small numbers by Detroit Standards, but it seemed like there were thousands of them because everyone remembered their white paint with blue stripes. A dozen were actively involved in racing and it seemed like about half of the cars in the races were GT350's and they always finished up front. The non-race cars looked just like the racecars so everyone thought that all Shelby Mustangs were racecars. Advertising cannot build images like racing can. Ford sold Mustangs like they were ice cream. Since the early Shelby's were all painted white, you could call them vanilla ice cream but with Jalapeno peppers under the hood.

Carroll Shelby is probably the only person to have worked at a visible level with all three of the American Automobile manufacturers. His charisma, vision and ability to know the best person for the job have made him into a master organizer and team leader able to produce results. "The Shelby Cobra". His greatest accomplishment as a driver was winning the 24-hours of Le Mans in 1969. The FIA World Grand Touring Championship and his Ford GT wins at Le Mans were his biggest successes as a race team manager. But perhaps his greatest achievement




is the establishment of the Carroll Shelby Children's Foundation and its new British arm, the Shelby Transplantation Trust, his best contribution to the future. Carroll Shelby has supported the Veterans Of the United States.

Thank you Carroll Shelby, Second Lieutenant, AAF, W.W.II.

Dion'el e. Trujillo, Fresno, California

Born 1962 in Fresno California to John & Gloria Trujillo, I grew up with a father who at the age of 24 had many wonderful cars, 1949 2dr Chevy fastback called Rebel Rouser, we named are cars in those days. 1953 Ford V8 Flathead Pickup and at a very young age he would place me on his lap and drive up and down the street. Dad's next car was a 1965 GTO. 1968 Buick. 1958 Chevy pick-up, 1974 Chevy Cheyenne step side, and a 1979 Classic Caprice and so on.

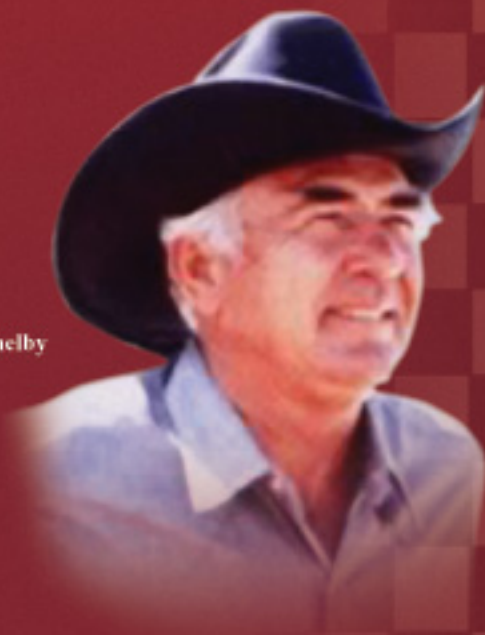


My dream of having a SHELBY COBRA came true last year when I purchased a 1965 427 S/C CSX # 4159 Shelby Cobra, unbelievable, a dream has come true for me, at forty two years old, with a car that has a history. Now I can tell others about the Shelby Cobra, Mr. Carroll Shelby and the history of the Cobra. 



Dion'el E. Trujillo
Fresno, California
COBRA by EGO

Carroll Shelby



Carroll Shelby, Second Lieutenant, AAF, W.W.II.

Thank you my friend, a fellow veteran, for your service to our country.

William E Dietzel, Editor Veterans Magazine