

Jim has a little history of cars. Jim drove across the US with a friend in the friend's MGA prior to enlisting. Jim lived in Anchorage, Alaska for 17 years. Alaska is not really conducive to owning and running neat cars. In the winter, the snow and ice is just a little much. Then, in the summer, there is usually a lot of road work being done to repair the roads from the winter.....

When Jim left Alaska in 1998, he spent two and a half years touring the US in a fifth wheel trailer. He would always visit Florida in the winter as they had very dear friends from Alaska who had retired here.

Well, Jim built his dream house on 5 acres in southern Oregon; got a dog; and built a great RV barn that housed not only the 5th wheel trailer and a tractor, but also an unassembled replica of a 1935 Mercedes 500K, one blue 1935 Mercedes 500K replica and one of the same in white, a MGTD replica, a 1971 MGB, and a 1955 MGTF.

He assumed he would live there happily ever after until he visited friends in Florida for Jim's birthday in November, 2005. The day before he was to fly back home, their friends said they had something to show him. They took him to The Villages. So, the following November 2006, Jim was living in The Villages. Now what did Jim do with all of those cars? Well, sad to say, the unassembled 1935 Mercedes 500K replica and the MGTD were sold in Oregon. The rest were bundled up along with a street legal golf cart and sent to The Villages.

Okay, we've seen the normal homes and garages in The Villages, and unless you are in the Bridgeport area, you don't have a 5 car garage. The one reason he bought the house he did was because it had a slightly oversize garage. The blue 500K was sold the very first month. The white 500K was sold a year later and now resides in Germany. The station wagon sits in the driveway and the MGTF and the MGB and golf cart reside in the garage. Well, they did until Jim got an MGA coupe. The TF is now in storage for the summer and will come out of storage when the MGB is sold.

Because he don't golf, he decided to sell their golf cart – a red, street-legal Lido complete with gold flames and a gold dragon on the tailgate. He bought a Smart Car to replace the golf cart, but was given a date of October 2009 before it would be delivered. Jim got his name on some Florida dealer lists, and was tickled when a car became available. He drove to West Palm Beach, bought the car, and Jim drove it back on the turnpike. You should have seen the look on the faces of the drivers he passed.

While living on the West Coast, Jim traveled from southern Oregon to Portland to attend the All British Field meet every Labor Day. There were literally 100's of beautiful British cars at the meet and this is where they found his MGTF. So, when he arrived in Florida, he started looking for British car clubs. We have been delighted to have Jim as a member of Suncoast Classic MG Club & Nature Coast English Car Club.