

# Fred and Nora Gooch

1937 Dictator Custom Coupe

Serial #5805193

1950 Commander 6 245 engine  
with stock 3 speed OD trans

Mileage: 124,280

Two tone green exterior with new gray interior

My first wife, Diana, and I saw a 1937 Studebaker coupe in 1975 and she told me I could bring home a '37 coupe anytime. We looked for 20 years and never found one we could afford. In 1995, Bruce Sandburg told me that Truly Nolen was selling several of his cars including a 1937 Dictator coupe. On our regular date day (Wednesday) we went and looked at it. I told Diana I would see what I could do.

Mr. Nolen and I made a deal and I picked up the '37 on our 1963 Transtar 1 ton car hauler. I unloaded it and drove it up our 17% grade driveway. After waking Diana up I took her outside to see her new car. She was overjoyed! At this point in time Diana was terminally ill for three years and couldn't drive due to the loss of two vertebrae but she enjoyed going for rides and trips in the '37 for about 15 months before she passed away.

Work done on the '37 includes: major overhauled 1950 Commander 6 245 engine bored with a Newman & Altman NOS head (\$35.00 for head), electric fuel pump, 4 row core pressurized radiator with cooling fan, rebuilt water pump with 1 piece shaft and sealed bearings, 2 barrel Stromberg carb, running boards recovered by Rhino Coatings, complete new interior, 1964 Lark V8 front brakes with power booster and 15" radial tires on 1970's GM wheels with moon caps and Studebaker vinyl letters on caps.

We have shown our Studebaker several times over the last 20 years and usually win a 2nd or 3rd place trophy.

My first Studebaker memory was riding in maroon 1950 Champion 4 door in 1951 with my parents and brother.

