## **CORVETTE: My Story**

(by Mike McCarron)

As a boy, I was interested in all cars but my interest became more focused when I was 10 years-old. I had a paper route in my small hometown in southern Minnesota. One summer day I was stopped in my tracks. There it was, a new 1958 Corvette sitting in a customer's driveway. It was white with silver coves and a red interior. I had not seen a Corvette in person before and couldn't take my eyes off it. I had found my new favorite newspaper customer!

During that summer I learned that the town's only dentist had purchased the



Corvette for his two college age sons. The car had the base V8 engine with a 3-speed manual transmission. I was able to finagle a few rides in it. On one of those treasured rides, Max (a son) drove up Main Street (all 3 blocks of it) and gunned it as we left town. It was the fastest, nicest car I had ever been in! I told myself right there and then

that one day I want to drive up this Main Street in my Corvette.

Unfortunately, life got in the way and I wasn't able to purchase my first Corvette until my last child got married in 2004. My first Corvette was a



clean, low mileage 1994 roadster. It was triple black with an automatic transmission. I babied it and drove the car on nice days only. When I wasn't driving it, I was polishing it. I really liked my first Corvette but I was now a Corvette fanatic and as such always looking for another one.

The more I looked for another Corvette the more I wanted a C6 roadster in either Monterey, or Crystal Red. My search ended in 2014 when I traded



my '94 for a base 2007 Corvette. It was a clean, low mileage 3LT roadster with magnetic shocks and 6-speed automatic. It was Monterey Red with 2-tone cashmere/graphite seats and a cashmere top. I enjoyed

driving it and more importantly, my wife enjoyed riding in it.

The "dream" I had as a 10 year-old boy of driving up Main Street in my hometown came true in 2016. My wife and I drove this Corvette back home for my 50<sup>th</sup> high school reunion. A lot of things had changed in my hometown in 50+ years except the thrill of going up Main Street in a Corvette!

I was very happy with my 2007 Corvette but that didn't stop me from looking. My wife thought (thinks) I was a little crazy. I was now searching



for a C6 Grand Sport because I like the looks of the wider body. In June of 2017, I traded by beloved 2007 Corvette for a 2013 Grand Sport with a 6-speed automatic and dual mode exhaust.

It too is a clean, low mileage, 1 owner 3LT painted Crystal Red with a cashmere interior and top. This is my last Corvette...for now!

Corvette ownership took on a new meaning for us in 2014 when my wife and I joined the Midwest Early Corvette Club. The members are people just like us, many of them are retirees with an enthusiasm for all things Corvette. As a club, we participate in and sponsor car shows, drive in parades, go on cruises, have parties and go to dinners. Besides having fun, we raise money for local charities. Corvette owners having fun with other Corvette owners in our Corvettes. The thrill I felt as a 10 year-old in a Corvette hasn't changed!