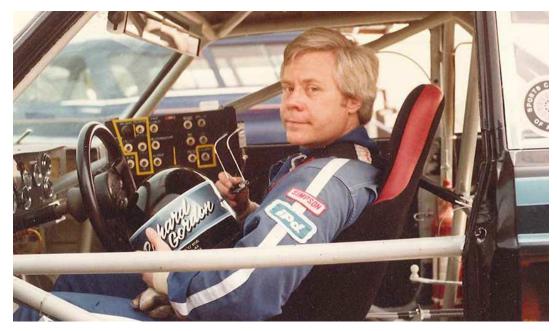
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VOLVO PARTS & ACCESSORIES SPECIALIST SINCE 1963

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Richard Gordon 1942-2014

Tuesday, November 18, 2014 - ipd staff



It is with a heavy heart that the ipd family sadly announces the passing of ipd founder Richard Gordon on Saturday October 18, 2014, at the age of 72 due to complications related to Parkinson's disease. Richard's influence in the Volvo community has impacted the lives of thousands of people, with his visionary approach to treating people the right way and paving the way for people's passion to be explored. He was admired and loved by all those who had the great privilege of associating with him. His accomplishments were great but his impact on those lives he touched was even greater.

Born in 1942 and raised in the Portland, Oregon area, Richard graduated from Franklin High School in 1960 and that same year, married his high school sweetheart, Judy Herman. Since 1963, Richard was the formidable leader and owner of ipd. With his dedication to customer care and old fashioned values, Richard built not only a company but an environment that fostered love and respect. This career, which suited Richard's passion for Volvos and people, extended into a lifetime of racing Volvos. He passed this legacy onto his children, working side by side with his daughter who helped run ipd and to his son, Robert, who took up racing and continues to race in the car that made history by being the first Volvo to win a professional road race in the United States. To Scott, he entreated his "try anything once" adventurous spirit. Richard's other passions included advocating for small businesses. Richard was a strong political supporter of the core values that built this country. A man of action, Richard had a strong belief in being informed and getting involved. He remained a man dedicated to the pursuit of excellence and he encouraged excellence in others. A man of compassion and grace, Richard had a great sense of humor and brilliant wit with an infectious charm that could make the most distant of strangers smile.

Richard is survived by his devoted wife of 53 years, Judy; sons, Scott and Robert Gordon; daughter, Suzanne "Suzy" (Gordon) Hart of Portland; and granddaughter, Taylor Gordon.

For all of your positive contributions and on behalf of the countless lives you've affected, we say thank you to Richard Gordon. You will truly be missed.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that memorial contributions be made to the Parkinson's Resources of Oregon in memory of Richard Gordon, 3975 Mercantile Drive, Suite 154, Lake Oswego, OR 97035. For more information, you can reach them at 1-800-426-6806.

Stuart Hockman - Current President of ipd

"Richard Gordon truly was a class act. He was indeed a man of high integrity and morals. I was personally blessed to know him for over 30 years in the auto parts business. I was also privileged to purchase IPD from him with my partners this year.

Richard was very motivated to help his employees become more well-read and educated. As a result, my partners and I will be setting up a Richard Gordon Education Scholarship fund for the children of our employees that are getting good grades, but need some financial assistance towards their college expenses.

I wish his family strength and love during these very difficult times."

After hearing of Richard Gordon passing, Bill Webb asked me (Art Banks) to send this article to ipd and VSA about Richard Gordon. This article appeared in Bill's Volvo Western States Magazine March/April 2003 issue.

VOLVO WESTERN STATES MAGAZINE

Dedicated To The Preservation and Restoration of Volvo Cars

Richard Gordon - Entrepreneur, Businessman, Race Driver, Visionary and All-Around Good Guy

Portland, Oregon-the location of 28th and Broadway won't mean much to many, but in December 1963, this is where Richard Gordon, along with Garry Small, opened the doors of ipd. There were no companies specializing in Volvo performance parts or racing equipment. Ipd started the ball rolling with sway bars, exhaust headers, springs, engines and other trick parts of their own design. The word soon spread as to the quality and durability of their products.

Richard bought his first Volvo, a 122 in 1967. This led him into auto crossing and he started beating the pants off of cars with racing histories, such as Alfa, BMW and Datsun. In 1968, Richard picked up another 122 from one of their customers that Garry Small had built which was equipped with a hot ipd two liter big-bore engine.

Over the next two years Richard won many awards with this car, including auto cross and Rose Cup races. Between 1970 and 1978, Richard added 12 SCCA titles and two regional championships. Racing was a proving ground of technology for the company.

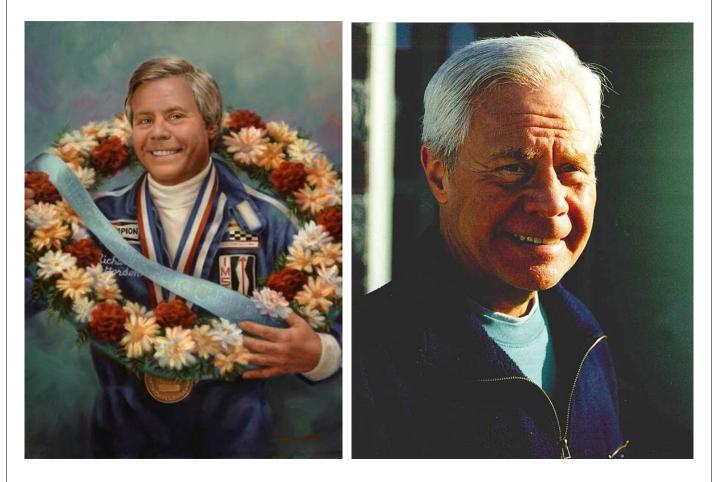
In 1974, the car was sold and a new 142E took its place. The ipd prepared 142E went on to win numerous races and set track records, including the first professional road race ever for Volvo in North America, the IMSA Champion Spark Plug Challenge at Laguna Seca in 1982.

Richard and his folks at ipd started to receive their share of well-deserved attention. Road and Track magazine wrote an extensive piece on ipd's performance parts, which was also written up in Car and Driver.

Ipd employees are made up of honest, hard-working Volvo enthusiasts who offer their customers quality products, informative technical advise and how-to instructions. We salute Richard and the entire ipd organization for 40 years of dedicated to the Volvo community.

Bill Webb Contributing VSA Editor

We invite all those who feel inclined to share their thoughts and feelings for Richard to do so in the comment section of this blog or to submit your article to info@ipdusa.com.





Community Comments

Tuesday, November 04, 2014 - CHRISTOPHER HENDRICKS

As a new owner of a 1997 Volvo 850 I have to say there is nothing more fulfilling, nothing more joyful than repairing and maintaining your own vehicle. It is specialty companies like IPD that make it all happen. Whether your a bloke in the UK or a street kid in America you're out there on the weekend spending your cash and working on your ride. It's in our blood, it's what we live for. When I order a seal, a light, a performance part from IPD and it comes in the mail I feel like a kid on Christmas morning. Richard made it all happen on such an elegant and grand scale with IPD. So the next time you turn over your Volvo give it some gas and rev it up for Richard Gordon just a little. His spirit is in the throttle, it's in pistons, it's in the very soul of a Volvo engine. Volvo for life, Volvo forever. IPD Pride. God Bless you Richard Gordon. The spirit of motoring lives on in your honor.

Wednesday, November 05, 2014 - QUINTESSA HUEY

We have owned a lot of Volvos over the last 25 years and the parts we ordered through IPD always made our Volvos special. More importantly, even safer. Thank you for the great service, and the company and products you built Richard Gordon. Our condolences to your family and employees.

Thursday, November 06, 2014 - MARIO GARDIN

Raced with Richard in the 70's and 80's with our 140 both in SCCA and IMSA, he helped us in so many ways with his experience and Volvo equipment, eg close ratio tranny, fiberglass body parts, and many more. Hallet, Riverside, Portland, Kent WA. Laguna, Portland, Sears Point, and Westwood BC. Lots of fine memories. Judy, Mollie and I express our condolences. Wish you and your family our best best." Volvo for life".

Monday, November 10, 2014 - ROGER FRITCH

I have bought parts from IPD since 1969. I met Richard in person at their old store in 1971. They always had the parts you needed. I think Richard invented the words CUSTOMER SERVICE. He was a super nice person who will surly be missed RIP

Tuesday, November 18, 2014 - ROBERT C. WILSON

Quality in an organization comes from the top. IPD has always represented quality and fairness in my dealings with them. This undoubtedly came from Richard Gordon's business and personal philosophy. Gone before his time. Condolences to his family and many friends. Bob Wilson

Tuesday, November 18, 2014 - JERRY HINES

Been an IPD regular since P2 Volvos, but have known Richard much longer. He ran our 1985 & 1986 Alcan 5000 Rally in a Rockwood motorhome with IPD suspension, and was delightful company plus a huge help to other teams be it mechanical help & advice, encouragement, or just hot microwave coffee & donuts on a cold afternoon. Business & family kept him from our later events, but Rich will long be remembered by the many he competed with. Here's an old related post, will make a better copy: www.alcan5000.com/JPG/86MHome2.jpg

Contribute to the Community!

We're looking for comments that are interesting, helpful, substantial and informative.

Comment on this article