



The Complete History — 1953-1982

Corvette—America's Star-Spangled Sports Car: The Complete History, 1953-1982 takes the reader behind the scenes during the early decades of Corvette design, engineering, brand development and racing competition. Award-winning automotive historian Karl Ludvigsen weaves together a technical examination of each model year with the compelling stories of the GM staffers and privateer racers who—through equal parts talent, passion and sheer force of will—kept the Corvette program thriving against heavy odds. Ludvigsen's up close and personal telling of the Corvette story captures the human drama and fierce rivalries that fueled the American car industry's golden age—and resulted in some impressive Detroit muscle.

When it was published in 1973, Star-Spangled Sports Car broke new ground as the first book devoted entirely to a single car model. It has since been credited with helping to kick-start the exciting Corvette hobby. Four decades after its original publication Classic and Sports Car declared, "Karl Ludvigsen's Corvette history remains the bible."

Now the award-winning author has fully revised, reorganized and expanded his Corvette bible, devoting 784 pages and 989 photos and illustrations to the complete history of the C1, C2 and C3 generation cars. As fast-paced and exciting as the cars it describes, this is a book for anyone who ever drove a Corvette—or wanted to.

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Corvette-America's Star-Spangled Sports Car The Complete History – 1953-1982 by Karl Ludvigsen

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989 photos, illustrations and diagrams



The author and Zora consult during test drive of CERV II in 1970.

Chapter 36: Racing Four by Four



Tony Lapine airbrushes a rendering of the XP-755 in 1961. Chapter 19:

Chapter 19: Mitchell's Motors



Karl Ludvigsen with Corvette creators Zora Arkus-Duntov and Bill Mitchell.

"My early education and inspiration related to Corvette history came from my original 1973 copy of "Star Spangled Sports Car".

After 40 years of use, wrinkles, torn dust cover, and dirt stained pages, it has served as the number one source to help tell the stories of the cars and people inducted into the Great Hall[®]."

David Burroughs - Founder, Bloomington Gold



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