



**Roy Parker in 2006 with
Granddaughter Rachel**

- Born and raised near the TN/NC border in 1948.
- Often visited the town of Newport, TN where numerous old (1930 -1940) racecars could be seen sitting on empty lots around town. NASCAR Late-Model champion L.D. Ottinger was a hot-shoe driving a black flathead '39 or '40 Ford coupe #02. Roy's family was so poor he never got to see any of the old cars run, but he was in love with the old coupes and coaches even as a kid.
- Roy joined the Air Force in Feb 1968; served two tours in Viet Nam and one in Korea; and retired October 1988. During those 20 years, Roy was a spectator at roughly 30 tracks in the states of FL, AL, MS, LA, TX, CO, KY, TN, NC, SC, and GA.
- After retiring, Roy has worked as a technical writer and trainer specializing in plant ops and maintenance. Over the past 18 years, Roy has watched races at an additional 15 or so tracks in the states of NY, VA, and TX.
- In 1988, he saw his first restored vintage racer. In 1991, he got involved in the Carolina Vintage Stockcar Racing Association (CVSRA) and started following that club. In late 1994, he drove a vintage car (shown below) for the first time.



Later that year, he found an old 1940 Ford coupe that had been raced at Toccoa, GA in its day. That car was restored over the 1994/1995 winter and he ran it with the Carolina club in 1995. The original car is shown on the left in August 1994. The picture on the right was taken at Dixie in the fall of 2000.



- In March 1996, Roy and a few others from the Greenville, SC area formed the National Vintage Racing Association (NVRA) – South Carolina Chapter. A few years later, the name was shortened to what is now known simply as the National Vintage Racing Association (NVRA).
- Roy was the NVRA's first president, an office he held for the first four years of the club's existence. During those early years, he averaged 15 hours per week, year round, dealing with NVRA issues (getting dates, promoting the club, taking a lot of pictures, writing the newsletters, maintaining memberships, coordinating with club members [before the Internet], managing the club's show in the pits) and racing his car. In 2000, he burned out. He sold his car in late 2001, but has stayed on as a NVRA officer through the 2006 season. From 1995 through 2001, Roy raced his car at one VA track, four NC tracks, six SC tracks, and seven GA tracks. Over the past few seasons, Roy has worked the NVRA pits helping coordinate the show.
- Due to family considerations, the 2006 season was Roy's last full-time season with the NVRA. In 2007, he will miss a few shows, but hopes to be in the pits taking pictures that he can use in the newsletter and on the club's web site.