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The morning after that we had time to drive to the end of the road and see the Bonneville Salt Flats before continuing to Salt Lake City to see an old friend. His brother was also visiting from Florida, the brother that he sold his MGA to, the one I tuned up for him back in 1983 out in the middle-of-nowhere northern Arizona. After catching up over lunch we drove east on I-80 up the twisting canyon through the Wasatch Range to the small town of Evanston, Wyoming. We had enough time before dark to look for one of the few remaining original Lincoln Highway mileposts. And while pulling in to park by the Museum a car pulled in and a gentleman got out and had to talk. He was shopping for an MGC for his collection! The following morning we got up to find the temperature near freezing. I checked and needed to add a quart to the engine, but the oil was really slow to pour! The route we had picked had us on two-lanes most of the day, past the west side of the Flaming Gorge down to Vernal, Utah (US-191 has many switchbacks) and Dinosaur National Park and eventually (via Colorado 139, which had construction but still a fun road) to Grand Junction, Colorado. As our next-door neighbor just got another nice Miata, we went to tour Flyin' Miata. Nice shop, but they are not fitting LS V8s into Miatas anymore and after COVID it is rather quiet in their shop now.

The next day was our US-50 day. In Nevada US-50 is called the "loneliest road" but in Colorado it means Monarch Pass. This was a bit ambitious to see how the MGC GT would do and we were rather surprised at how well the car ran. We stopped at the top after passing many trucks and even other cars on the climb and took a few pictures at the summit at 11,312 feet! The car did not restart easily, but once it did start it ran down the other side just fine, even cooling a bit too much on the way down. Turning south at Salida we visited the Great Sand Dunes National Park and stopped that night in Alamosa.



Visiting Taos Pueblo was really impressive. We were directed to a prime parking spot within sight of the visitors center and spent a couple of hours just walking around soaking up the look and the feel of the place. This town has been occupied for about 700 years! One of the oldest continuously inhabited communities in the country. Many of the residents move everything out of their front rooms every morning and turn them into shops to sell their art and crafts. We were very impressed with one great lady painting her hand made pottery and bought one for Susan's collection.

After spending the night in Española, a Museum in Santa Fe then another in Los Alamos, we ending our day in Tucumcari, New Mexico. This is an old Route 66 stop and there are a lot of historic tourist attractions there, unfortunately a lot that have not survived. We looked at one vintage 1939 motel still operating and vowed to try and stop there on the return trip. Onward on I-40 the next day we stopped at the Cadillac Ranch for fun and then pushed on to Clinton, OK, where there is a really good Route 66 Museum.

The next day got us to Alma, AR, and the next to Memphis for a walk on Beale Street, and a visit to the Rock 'n' Soul Museum. Followed by the eleventh day driving to Chattanooga. It was great to see all our old friends there! Many hours talking and the tours Richard arranged were great. Unfortunately the Chattanooga Motorcar Festival seemed a bit disorganized! Originally expecting to show the GT in the Festival, I decided it wasn't worth the effort. Place by 7:30am and removed by 3pm, or get towed!



After our CBA in Chattanooga we said our goodbyes and headed for an old friend's near Atlanta.

Three days of driving from there, one of 510 miles, we checked back in time in Tucumcari, NM. The Blue Swallow Motel was built in 1939 and is on the national historic register and is nearly all original, including the neon which still works. They play 1950's music outside and each room has a garage. Parked out front could be the 1957 Hudson Hornet or the 1953 Buick. They even have a Kelvinator

refrigerator that still works! Fun place with a really nice host. **continued**