

VIVIAN, Ken and Myrtle

Marriage and Model-T

Still Going Strong

Intell

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Hamplo - Bury

SHANNONVILLE — Ken and Myrtle Vivian hailed a half-century of marriage recently on wheels — aboard the 50-year-old Model-T they bought for their honeymoon.

The ancient auto still takes a pride of place among the antique vehicles which Ken has been collecting for years.

It's been in storage among nearly 50 other vintage vehicles for 23 years. When the Vivians marked their wedding anniversary, the Model-T was wheeled out, and a new battery hooked up. The antique started as if it had been made yesterday, said Ken.

He drove it round the yard outside the Vivian home for the amusement of the crowd attending the anniversary celebration — among them antique car buffs like Ken. The jaunt was a short one — in contrast to the tour the couple took after buying the car brand new in 1924 for \$1,025.

Ken and his young bride wheeled the Model-T through

southwestern Ontario, as far as Ohio, then back through Pennsylvania and New York. The trip marked up 1,000 miles and took three weeks.

Back home where Ken held the Ford dealership for 35 years until he retired in 1957, the Vivians ran the Model T for many more years.

It'll be secure here for years to come.

"I'll keep it as long as I'm around," says Ken.

For years, he has been a leading restorer and collector of vintage cars. He is a director and past president of the Antique and Classic Car Club of Canada, Upper Canada Region.

Ken, now 73, and Myrtle, 72, were married at the bride's home in Thurlow township. They have two daughters, a son and 11 grandchildren.