

# CarStory

with Bill Sherk  
The Old Car Detective



## Dennis Pascoe's 1965 Envoy Epic

It was the first car that Dennis Pascoe of Toronto drove everywhere – a 1965 Envoy, a British-built General Motors economy car that first appeared in Chev-Olds showrooms across Canada in 1960. It was the new companion car to the hot-selling Vauxhall, available in Canada since 1950, through GM's Pontiac-Buick dealers. By 1965, two subcompacts were available – the Vauxhall Viva and the Envoy Epic, designed to compete with the VW Beetle.



Dennis Pascoe and his family drove their Envoy Epic to the east coast in 1965. This photo was taken outside a motel in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

The Envoy Epic arrived in the middle of the muscle car era in North America, and it could squeal its tires, but only for a split-second if you revved it up and popped

the clutch. As for horsepower, well, as my fellow Canadian automotive historian Gord Hazlett would say, "not enough punch to pull the skin off a rice pudding."

But horsepower isn't everything, especially in these days of hefty gasoline prices. Here is what Dennis Pascoe had to say about his '65 Envoy Epic:

"Four on the floor and four cylinders. An odd shade of red; I still had the tin of touch-up paint that came with it until recently. Apart from completely out-of-adjustment carburetor and timing when new, the car was pretty trouble-free once my dad dealt with these problems. He was a motor mechanic and dispatch rider in the army, so he knew all about simple engines like this one.

"Since the car my dad drove was supplied through his work, the Envoy Epic was the only car owned by

our family. It was essentially mine to drive to summer jobs at the Canadian Tire warehouse and around Toronto, especially on music gigs. During hot summer weather (no air conditioning), I would carry a thermos of ice water under the front seat so I could have it on the long drive home from the warehouse. We installed a big old radio under the dash, which picked up all the noise from the ignition.

"Because my dad's work car had to be available for work even when he was on his two-week holiday, our little Epic was the family's vacation vehicle. It took us from coast to coast trouble-free. To the east coast in 1965, when the photo you see here was taken at our motel in Fredericton, New Brunswick, and to the west coast in 1967. Our first time for both. Almost didn't make it up some very steep roads of those days in the

Rockies. "It was later sold to a fellow who moved with it out to Nova Scotia. He got an oil change one day, drove the car a few miles, and ground to a halt. The engine was dry. Someone had forgotten to fill up the engine with new oil, so the car was junked near the Canso Causeway in Nova Scotia. Too bad. It was a great little runabout, and I could afford the gas!"

Do you have any car stories to share with our readers?

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# Colchester North School winds up volleyball season



TEAM SPIRIT – Three volleyball teams from Colchester North Public School displayed their pennants and awards last week after finishing a successful season.

The senior boys' team, above left, won seven of eight tournaments this season including the Pronger Tournament, the EDESAA League Tournament, the Red Raider Tournament, the Brock Tournament, the Massey Tournament, and the Maidstone Tournament. They also became finalists at the Oakwood Tournament.

The junior girls' team, below, earned a finalist spot in the North Shore Invitational Tier 1 Tournament, while the senior girls, above right, earned consolation spots during the 7th Wolverine Classic, the GECEAA Tournament and became Red Raider Invitational finalists.



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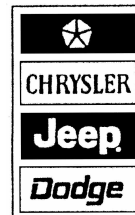
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