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## Ed \"Big Daddy\" Roth (SoCal \ Manti, UT)

Posted by VintageBuzz - 2008/07/24 17:47

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Ed \"Big Daddy\" Roth (1932-2001 SoCal \ Manti, UT)

Jerry Lee wrote in another thread:

Buzz's article reminded me that I do have a neat collection of hot rod humorist Alex Toth's racing cartoons. Toth drew some great drag racing stories for not only CARtoons, but also Drag Cartoons, Hot Rod Cartoons, and a rag mag called Big Daddy Roth in the '60's. (Anyone remember these???)

Jerry, you really got my attention when you mentioned the Big Daddy! Everyone knows the wild side of Ed Roth; but, how many know that he lived his final years in Manti, Utah as a member of the state's dominant-religion? I had the pleasure of talking with Ed at the SEMA Show in Las Vegas before he passed away. He spotted our name tags and said: \"You boys are from Utah. Are you Bishops?\"...in reference to the dominant-religion in Utah. We both said: \"No.\" He laughed and then went on to tell us in detail about his new life in Utah. ~VB

Here is a link that will give you the local flavor of Ed's wake and funeral. ~VB

<http://nitrosheriff.com/roth.shtml>

And while your are in this link, check out the bio and history of Jack Harris (Kaysville, UT). Jack and his son are still hooked on those front-engine AA/Fuel machines! ~VB

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## Re:Ed \"Big Daddy\" Roth (SoCal \ Manti, UT)

Posted by Olen McGuire - 2008/07/25 09:18

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Hey Buzz,thanks for the welcome.

I've heard of Big Daddy and it was probably through Jerry.I checked out your link and he must have been quite the man.You have probably seen all of his stuff but I found this one.

[http://www.edroth.com/Main\\_menu.html](http://www.edroth.com/Main_menu.html)

See you all down the strip!! Olen

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## Re:Ed \"Big Daddy\" Roth (SoCal \ Manti, UT)

Posted by Jerry Lee - 2008/07/25 12:07

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Great Big Daddy story, Buzz! \"Are you Bishops?!?\" Haaaa!:laugh:

\"Big Daddy\" Olen actually did a little drag racing himself back in '60 or '61 out at C.D.R. when he was a disc jockey for country western station KBRN. I think I still have his trophy somewhere.

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## Re:Ed \"Big Daddy\" Roth (SoCal \ Manti, UT)

Posted by Olen McGuire - 2008/07/26 10:44

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Here's an item from Wikipedia:

Ed Roth  
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Birth name Ed Roth  
Born March 4, 1932  
Bell, California  
Died April 4, 2001 (aged 69)

Nationality American

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Field Custom Automotive Cartoon Art  
Training Self Educated  
Movement Kustom Kulture  
Works Rat Fink  
Influenced Robert Williams

Ed "Big Daddy" Roth (March 4, 1932 – April 4, 2001) was an artist and cartoonist who created the hot-rod icon Rat Fink and other extreme characters. As a custom car builder, Roth was a key figure in Southern California's "Kustom Kulture"/Hot-rod movement of the 1960s. He grew up in Bell, California, attending Bell High School, where his classes included auto shop and art.

Roth is best known for his grotesque caricatures — typified by Rat Fink — depicting imaginative, outsized monstrosities driving representations of the hot rods he and his contemporaries built. Although Detroit native Stanley Mouse (Miller) is credited with creating the so-called "Monster Hot Rod" art form, Roth is accepted as the individual who popularized it. Roth is less well known for his innovative work in turning hot rodding from crude backyard engineering where performance was the bottom line into a refined artform where aesthetics were equally important, breaking new ground with Fibreglass bodywork.

In the 1960s, plastic models of many of Roth's cars, as well as models of Rat Fink and other whimsical creatures created by Roth, were marketed by the Revell model company.

Numerous artists were associated with Roth, including painter Robert Williams, Rat Fink Comix artist R.K. Sloane and Steve Fiorilla, who illustrated Roth's catalogs.

Roth was active in the field of counterculture art and hot-rodding his entire adult life. At the time of his death in 2001, he was working on an innovative hot-rod project involving a compact car planned as a radical departure from the dominant "tuner" performance modification style. In his later years, Roth's telephone number was listed in the directory, and he encouraged fans to contact him: he was always generous with his time and enthusiasm.

I thought this was a good composition of his life> Olen

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## Re:Ed \"Big Daddy\" Roth (SoCal \\ Manti, UT)

Posted by VintageBuzz - 2008/07/26 11:30

Olen McGuire wrote:

Hey Buzz,thanks for the welcome.

I've heard of Big Daddy and it was probably through Jerry.I checked out your link and he must have been quite the man.You have probably seen all of his stuff but I found this one.

[http://www.edroth.com/Main\\_menu.html](http://www.edroth.com/Main_menu.html)

See you all down the strip!! Olen

Olen-- Thanks for all your info on Ed "Big Daddy." I learn something new about him every time that I read an article. He was an icon to many Hot Rodders for decades. ~VB

One of my first models was Ed Roth's "Mother's Worry." It got lost, broken, or tossed out years ago. But, a friend of mine built another one for me. Here is a photo of my current "Mother's Worry." My six-year old grandson likes it a lot already; the kid has excellent taste! ~VB [http://autoracingmemories.com/images/fbfiles/images/Mother\\_\\_s\\_Worry.jpg](http://autoracingmemories.com/images/fbfiles/images/Mother__s_Worry.jpg)

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## Re:Ed \"Big Daddy\" Roth (SoCal \\ Manti, UT)

Posted by VintageBuzz - 2008/07/26 11:39

Jerry Lee wrote:

Great Big Daddy story, Buzz! "Are you Bishops?!?" Haaaa!:laugh:

"Big Daddy" Olen actually did a little drag racing himself back in '60 or '61 out at C.D.R. when he was a disc jockey for country western station KBRN. I think I still have his trophy somewhere.

Let's get some of "BD" Olen's CDR photos posted here at ARM! ~VB

Was KBRN located in Brighton, CO by any chance? ~VB

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## Re:Ed \"Big Daddy\" Roth (SoCal \\ Manti, UT)

Posted by Olen McGuire - 2008/07/26 12:18

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Jerry Lee wrote

QUOTE:

Great Big Daddy story, Buzz! "Are you Bishops?!?" Haaaa!:laugh:

"Big Daddy" Olen actually did a little drag racing himself back in '60 or '61 out at C.D.R. when he was a disc jockey for country western station KBRN. I think I still have his trophy somewhere.

Yeah Buzz,I was a disc jockey and program manager at KBRN in Brighton in the early 60's.We played polka music in the mornings and CW music the rest of the day.

As far as my racing at CDR,that was a one time promotion that most DJ's around Denver got involved in and we all were awarded a trophy.

I'll see you all down the strip>Olen

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## Re:Ed \"Big Daddy\" Roth (SoCal \\ Manti, UT)

Posted by VintageBuzz - 2008/07/26 12:36

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Olen McGuire wrote:

Yeah Buzz,I was a disc jockey and program manager at KBRN in Brighton in the early 60's.We played polka music in the mornings and CW music the rest of the day.

As far as my racing at CDR,that was a one time promotion that most DJ's around Denver got involved in and we all were awarded a trophy.

I'll see you all down the strip>Olen

Olen-- At KBRN, did you know the Sunday Polka DJ named Hal Pierce? My Dad (Lou Wendzel) and Hal were great friends along with Joe Prunk and Frankie "The Yank" Yankovick. Man, as a young kid I used to attend those German Polka Dances and Dutch Hops in northern Colorado with my parents; those "cats" knew how to party and drink the "pivo." ~VB

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## Re:Ed \"Big Daddy\" Roth (SoCal \\ Manti, UT)

Posted by Jerry Lee - 2008/07/31 14:17

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Hey Buzz!

Dad's been having a problem getting on this site to answer to your post. Everytime he went to it, it would lock up and not let him log on. For a few days it wasn't letting me post either, but they must have got it fixed!!:)

Anyway, Dad says he does remember Hal Pierce. In fact, do you remember listening to "Mac's Record Rack" on KBRN? That was none other than Olen "Mac" McGuire. I think Dad's show might have followed Hal's or something. He can tell you more about it if he's able to log on.

I still have some of his old 45's from the station. One of them was from a little known (at the time)country western singer named Loretta Lynn! Just like in the movie "Coal Miner's Daughter", Loretta stopped by KBRN and asked Dad to play her "lil' ol' single". I still have that, and at least a couple hours of Dad's actual radio shows on tape, which I later bumped to CD. Cool stuff! B)

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## Re:Ed

Posted by Olen McGuire - 2008/08/04 18:38

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Jerry Lee wrote:

Hey Buzz!

Dad's been having a problem getting on this site to answer to your post. Everytime he went to it, it would lock up and not

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let him log on. For a few days it wasn't letting me post either, but they must have got it fixed!!:)

Hey Jerry, I think I'm back on now but has anybody seen or heard from Buzz.He hasn't posted anything for a while.Maybe He's still having the same problem we were having.  
See you all down the strip.>Olen

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