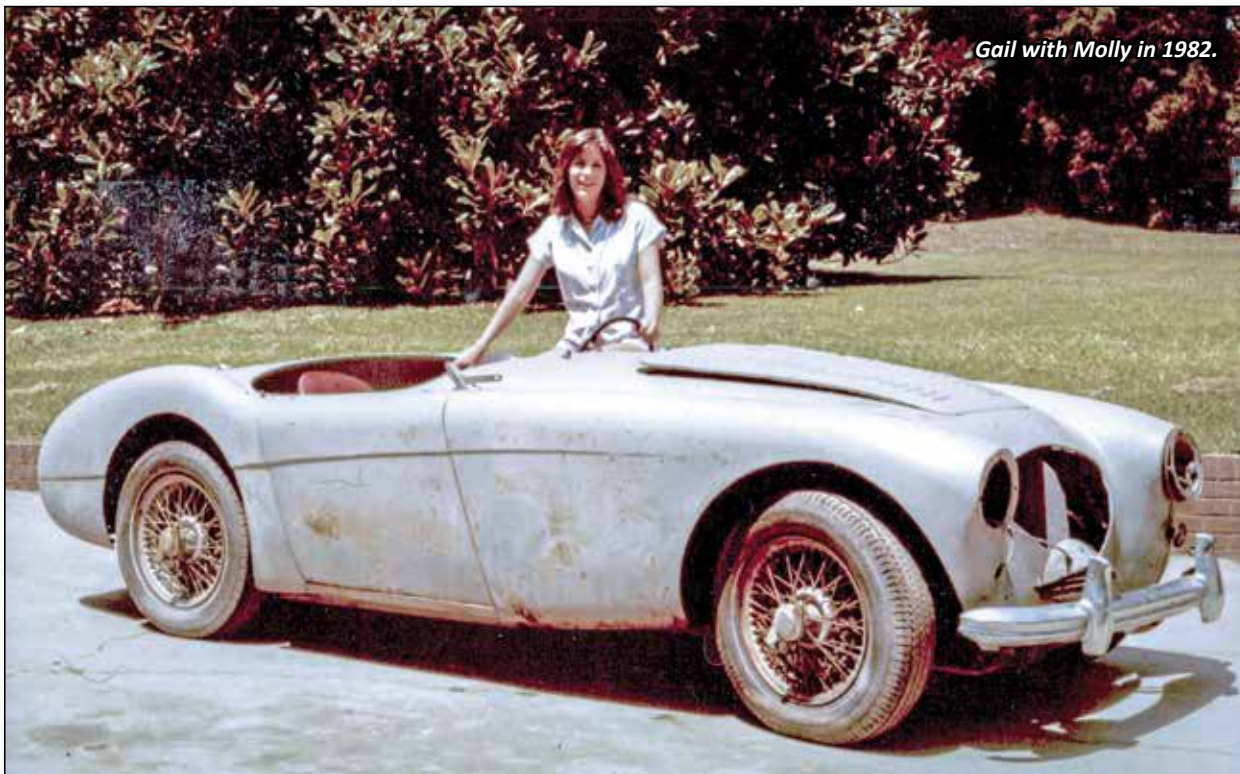


# Molly, the Other Woman (a factory-original 100M)

Gail Hall  
Wake Forest, North Carolina  
Submitted by the Worldwide 100M Registry



Gail with Molly in 1982.

bond between father, son, and car. Then normal life took priority and Molly rested.

In 1988, she was “back.” A flatbed truck carrying Molly and her entourage of parts arrived at our first house as a married couple. We didn’t have a lot of extra money, so for the next 18 years, Molly’s trunk was used as extra garage storage, and

I first met Molly back in 1981. At the time she was living at my future husband’s (John Hall) parents’ carport with her parts strung throughout their game room, including the top of a pool table. Molly’s prior home was an open field, so this was definitely “moving up.” Most weekends, while we were dating, I traveled with my future husband to his hometown so he could visit this “other woman.” However, I wasn’t jealous because the best words to describe Molly were “dog ugly.”

During these visits I would do laundry while my future husband and his father sweated through the seemingly insurmountable challenge to make Molly purr. They poured through car parts catalogs, constantly placing orders. Weekend after weekend this love/hate relationship with Molly continued.

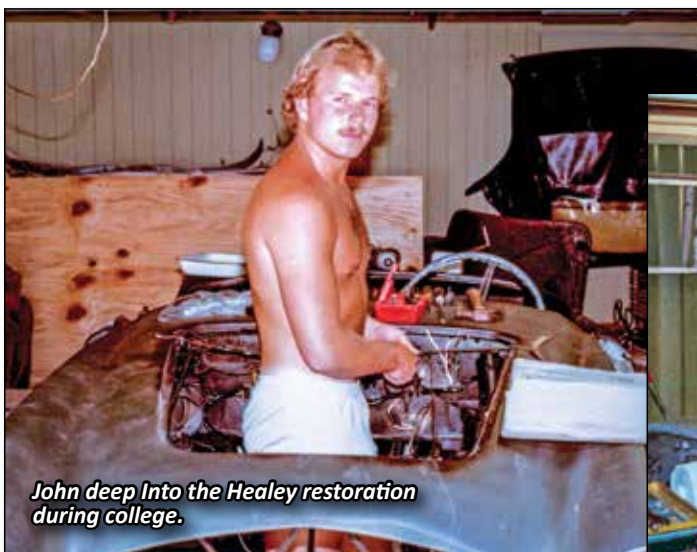
With the help of a mechanic friend and right before college graduation, the engine turned over and Molly traveled 100 yards. You could just feel the excitement and the unbreakable

one winter as the residence for a mouse. Even as our family space needs grew, moving Molly out was non-negotiable. Instead, we built her a new three-car garage in which to live. This is just the way it was.

The in 2006, I had open-heart surgery. We decided life is short and agreed to give Molly a makeover. Within seconds my husband started the plan to breathe life back into his second love. He found a local restoration shop where Molly lived for the next two years. During summer break, my husband also lived there to help. She now looked fantastic with her new bright red and black colors, but her temperament was unpredictable and she sounded like a lawn mower.

Recognizing that any job worth doing is worth doing right, we sent her away to a second restoration shop, Hendrix Wire Wheel. Allen, Jerry, and Ben took Molly to the finish line to be the car that she was meant to be.

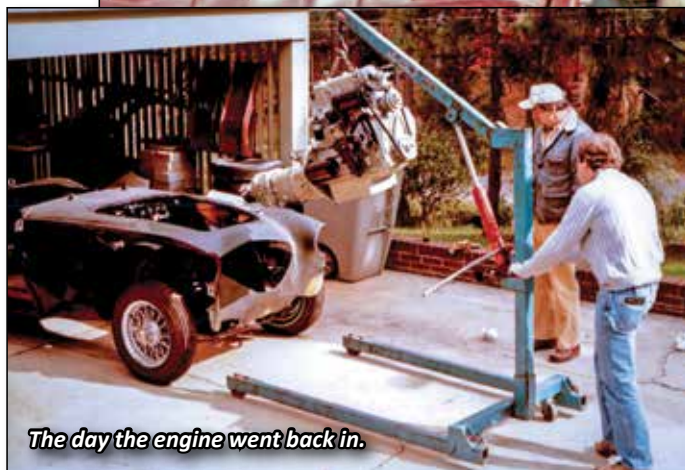
During the restoration, there were four really memorable moments.



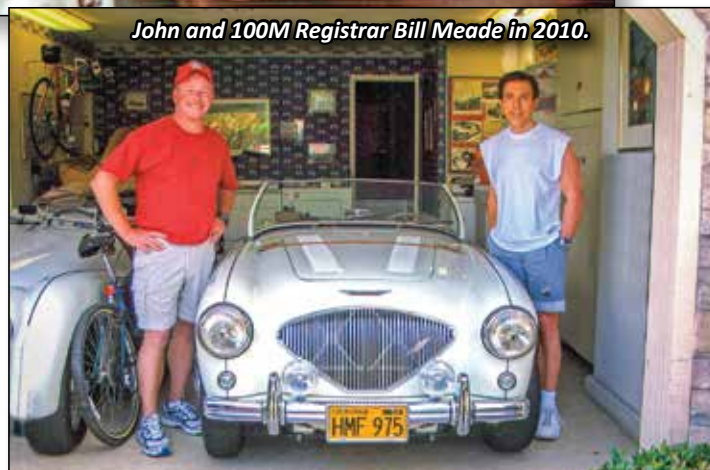
*John deep into the Healey restoration during college.*



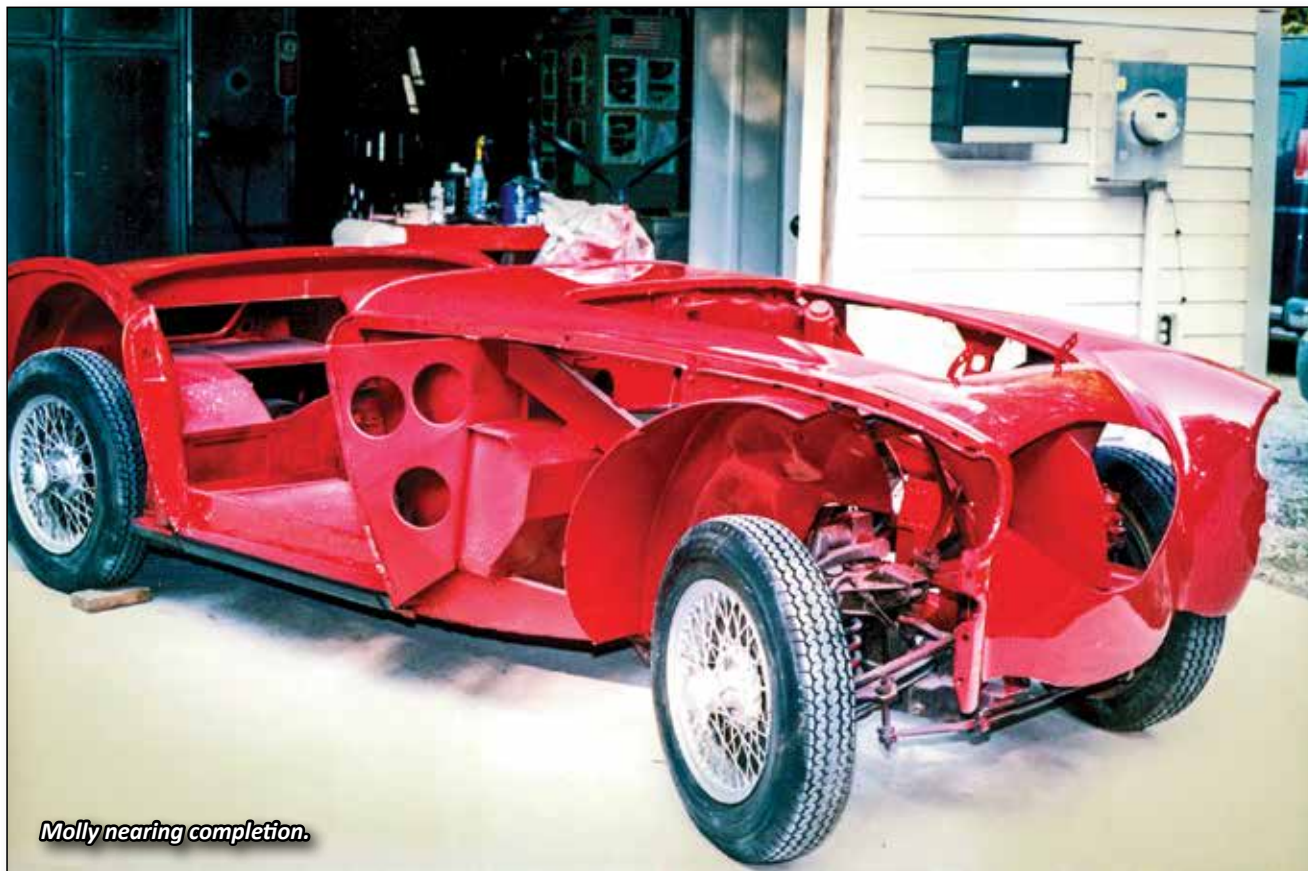
*The original interior.*



*The day the engine went back in.*



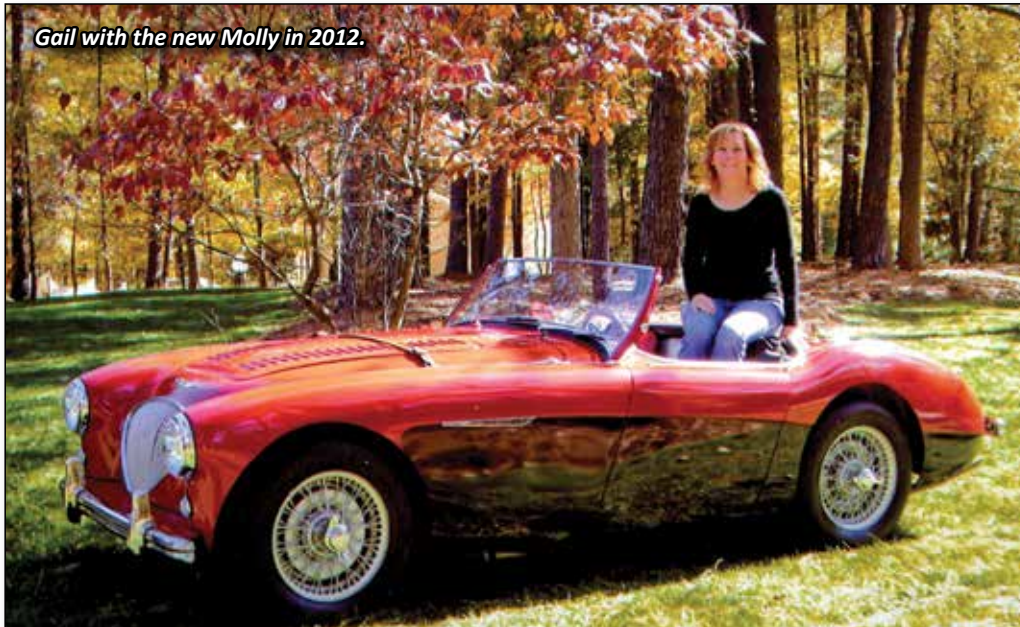
*John and 100M Registrar Bill Meade in 2010.*



*Molly nearing completion.*



*Molly finally back home.*



Gail with the new Molly in 2012.



Molly's new interior.



Gail with the other women.



John and his Father, Leland, a previous owner of Molly.

- The first was the help and continual motivation we got from Bill Meade with the Worldwide 100M Registry, who always offered support and guidance.
- The second was confirming officially from the British Motor Industry Heritage Trust that Molly was an original factory 100M with all of her serial numbers matching as original.
- The third was my husband driving her home for the first time on *my* birthday.
- And finally, in 2009, Molly came home for good. The transformation was incredible. She was now beautiful and purring like a kitten.

The restoration took three years from start to finish and yes, he really did finish. However, the money spent was incredible and I don't look at the receipts because it is too stressful. Yet, I have to admit, I don't regret anything. On Sundays my husband plays chauffeur and drives me around the town. Molly is an extension of his father who passed away during this time, and I have come to love her almost as much as I love my husband. She's not perfect, but then neither is he. We are a family. **HM**