

Ken Miles: The Shelby American Years - Unlocking the Secrets of a Racing Icon

In the annals of automotive history, few names evoke such reverence and mystique as Ken Miles. As the unsung hero behind some of the most iconic racing cars ever built, Miles' legacy extends far beyond the checkered flag.



Ken Miles: The Shelby American Years by Dave Friedman

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
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Now, in "Ken Miles: The Shelby American Years," legendary author and racing historian A.J. Baime unveils the extraordinary life and career of this enigmatic figure. Drawing upon extensive research, personal interviews, and previously unpublished materials, Baime paints a vivid portrait of Miles, from his humble beginnings in England to his meteoric rise in the American racing scene.

The Early Years: A Passion for Speed

Born in 1918, Miles developed a burning passion for speed at an early age. His mechanical aptitude and fearless driving style quickly caught the

attention of racing enthusiasts, and he soon found himself competing in local races throughout England.



Joining the Shelby American Team

In 1962, Miles' career took a pivotal turn when he joined the legendary Shelby American team, led by visionary entrepreneur Carroll Shelby.

Together, they embarked on a thrilling quest to build the Ford GT40, a car designed to dethrone Ferrari's dominance at the 24 Hours of Le Mans.



The 24 Hours of Le Mans: Triumph and Tragedy

The 24 Hours of Le Mans is the ultimate test of endurance and speed, and it was here that Miles' talents truly shone. In 1965, he co-drove the GT40 to a historic victory, breaking Ferrari's six-year winning streak.

However, tragedy struck the following year when Miles was involved in a fatal accident while testing the J-Car, a prototype for the GT40's successor. His untimely demise sent shockwaves through the racing community, leaving a void that would never be filled.



A Legacy of Excellence

Ken Miles' legacy extends beyond his racing achievements. He was a gifted engineer, a fearless pioneer, and a true icon of the automotive world. His unwavering determination, relentless pursuit of perfection, and infectious enthusiasm continue to inspire generations of racing enthusiasts.

Discover the Man Behind the Legend

"Ken Miles: The Shelby American Years" is not just a biography of a racing legend; it is a compelling story of a man who lived life on the edge, pushing the limits of both himself and his machines. Through Baime's masterful storytelling, readers will gain an intimate glimpse into the life, passions, and enduring legacy of one of the greatest unsung heroes of motorsport history.

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About the Author

A.J. Baime is an award-winning author and historian specializing in automotive and racing history. His previous works include the critically acclaimed biographies of Henry Ford and Enzo Ferrari.



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