

More Than a Sketch

Written by Don Stewart

Saturday, 01 April 2006 11:33 - Last Updated Sunday, 10 January 2010 11:46

Obviously, the pony pictured above isn't a car at all. It doesn't wear 4-tires; it wears 4-hooves. It's clearly a sketch, and it looks familiar, doesn't it? Some of you probably know its origin or parts of its story. Nevertheless, here are some more details about the sketch and about the man behind the sketch.

Forty-two years ago this month, on April 17th, the 1964½ Mustang made its first public appearance at the New York World's Fair. But, as we know, there were Mustang concept cars before that. The passionate and dedicated individual who put his indelible mark on Mustang I, the first Mustang concept, is the subject of this story. It's the story of a man who drew cars beginning in his teens and, early on, he began calling them . . . MUSTANG. After graduating from high school, he was accepted into a major of Biochemical Engineering at Nashville's Vanderbilt University but illness intervened. Bedridden for a year, the 17 year old teenager, unable to do little else, sketched the things he loved—cars. That year served as a forerunner to a significant change in career goals.

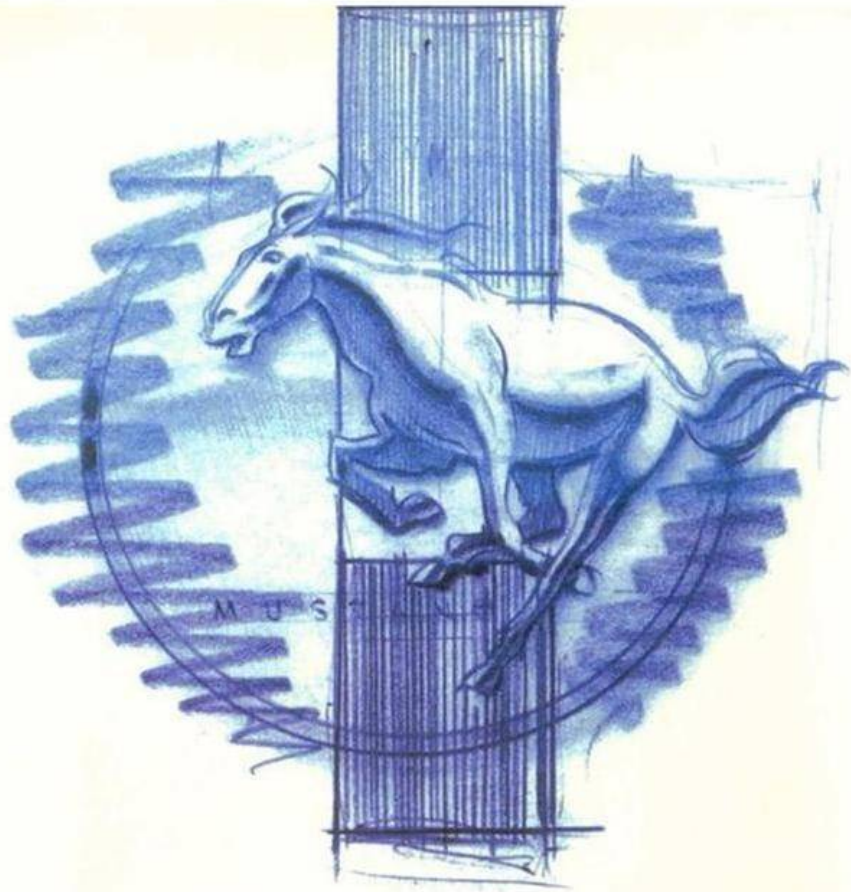
I find his story absolutely spellbinding. And as interesting as I find the story itself, equally fascinating is the way it came to light. There's a lady in Texas who has spent the last 20 years developing the details. She was gracious enough to give me permission to share with you some of her copyrighted material and some of her images. Her name is Holly Clark and the story she tells is riveting. Thank you Ms. Clark, for your assistance and for allowing me to share this story with our club members. Your father must have been a very special person.

Yes, the story is about Holly Clark's father, Phil Clark (Phillip Thomas Clark) born October 27, 1935 in Centerville, IA. He died when Ms. Clark was very young but since 1986 when she discovered much of the information about him, she's been determined to gain him the recognition he deserves. She's written articles, given interviews, shared details with Ford Motor Company at the request of J. Mays speaking for Bill Ford, and started a series of books to immortalize Phil Clark. The first book will be released soon under the title ***The Man Behind the Pony***

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Mustang's Galloping Pony
Sketched by Phil Clark
reprinted by permission

Mustang

Clark

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<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/10760/10760-h/10760-h.htm>

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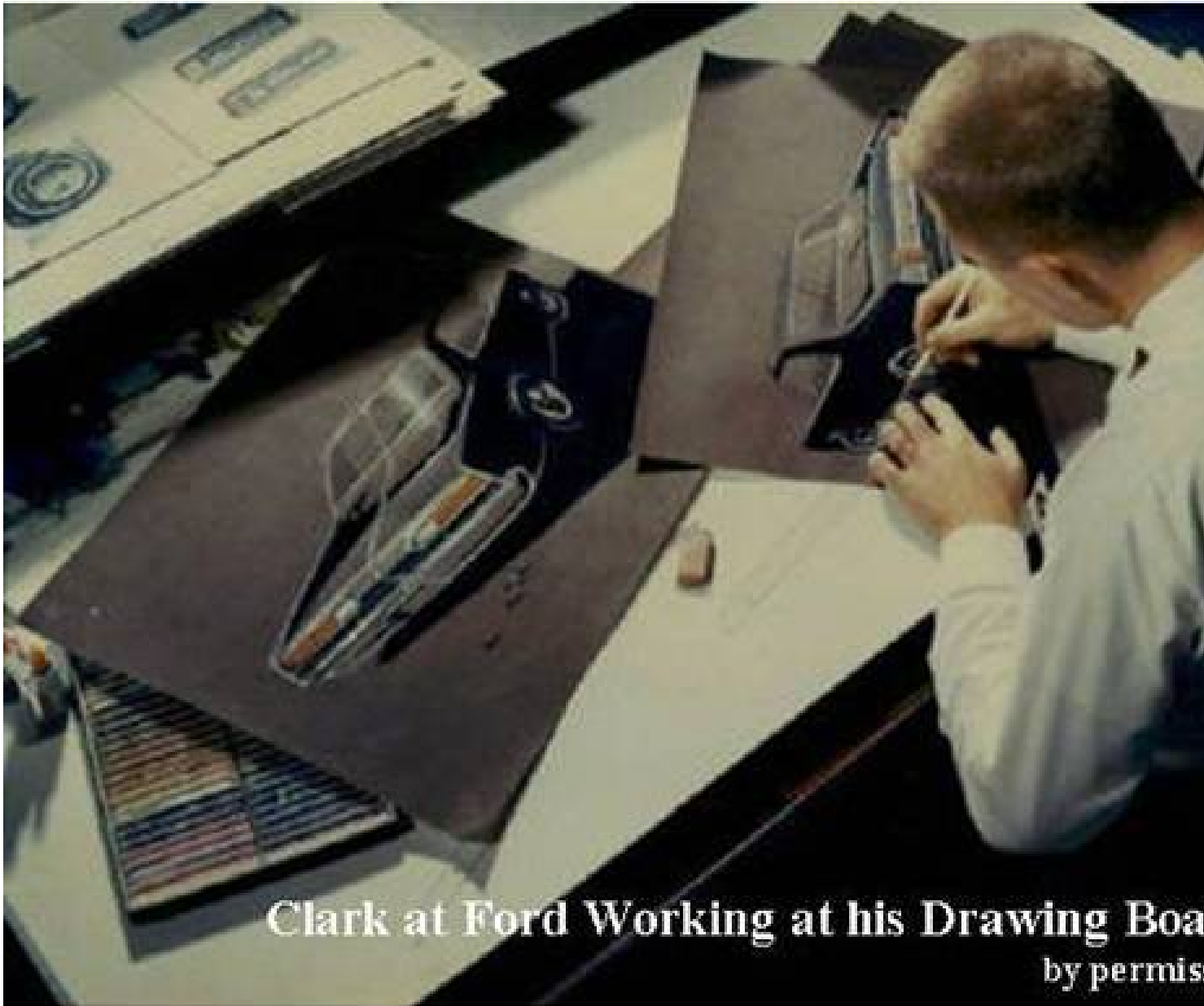


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Clark at Ford Working at his Drawing Board
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