

*The Just Miatas Reunion
And Book Launching Party
April 14, 2012*

by Terese Mac Davis



I was picturing 50 or 80 Miatas lining my street while my husband was freaking out that we would have a hundred people in our tiny house and it would rain.

We were hosting our book launching, *Just Miatas, How I Buy, Restore and Sell*, and what better way to do it than inviting everyone local who bought a car from us, all the people who worked on our cars throughout our 12 years of 'doing' cars' and some extra Miata friends.

Saturday morning was sunny and windy. The place looked great. Before you see the pictures, I have to warn you that I'm considered a little eccentric here in the neighborhood. We really went all out and the place looked great, in its own way.



We decorated my 'office' and put up our banner

Carolyn (she's in the book) and I spent days putting things together for the party. Even the driveway was decorated, and it still had room for a Miata. We put up our banner at the back of the driveway.

We still had no idea how many people would come. We ended up with about 35 throughout the day. Some dropped in and most stayed.

Although we didn't fill up my whole street with Miatas, we had a good many. It was wonderful seeing my old cars again (and their owners, too, of course). The street looked just as it had when we were doing those cars.

We were going to have a rocking party! Some of my favorite people in the book came.



Notice the shark teeth! It's a lawyer's car.

Sonja came and drove her 92 Sunburst Yellow. She's the one who had a 3 page list of things to check when she bought her car 10 years ago. It looked great, except... something about it was different. Then she pointed it out. Shark teeth! Her car had shark teeth! Then I remembered she's a lawyer and it was her own private lawyer joke.



Such a refreshing sight!

Jeff, our mechanic came with his family and he was a very popular guest. Everyone wanted to talk to him about their cars. Many of my cars still go to Jeff to be expertly cared for. My one and only 93 LE owner came, and a lot of people who were in the book were there.

There was sunshine, lots of BBQ (and a little wine) and Tommy, our DJ friend sang and played. It was cool that we were having the loud party for once, and not one of our young neighbors!

We did a book signing and sold quite a few books. Some of the people who were in the book, signed it too. After a while, we were all signing each other's books. Yes, there was a little wine enjoyed along with the music and cars.



Tessa, Peggy and Terese, talkin' Miatas.



Tessa and her 94 M. Bought 8 years ago.

Everyone felt a special bond, being part of the whole *Just Miatas* experience. A few of the neighbors stopped by to see what was going on (and some stayed for a while, too). After all, the neighborhood watched it happen, too.



Tommy the DJ and his wife, Pam. He sang and played music for hours! It cheered up the whole block! We rocked!!



It was nice to see Shirley's 90 red classic again. She was across the street from me.

It was awesome that so many still had their Just Miatas cars after so many years, and they still looked wonderful. The people still looked pretty good, too.

So after twelve years of owning, driving, restoring and selling these wonderful cars, *Just Miatas* changed when we retired. I spent a couple of years working on my two cars (Miatas of course). I hadn't ever done a Miata for myself to keep, before.

Then the book happened. I wrote it in a month, and then spent almost a year struggling with it to make it readable. I finally met my editor, Nancy Barnes of *Stories to Tell* and we worked on it for another seven months. We self-published it and now it's on Amazon.com. I also have it offered on my website, www.justmymiata.com . Nancy enjoyed doing the book so much, she now points out Miatas to her friends.

This book probably won't make the New York Times Best Seller List, but it's a look into a different part of the Miata world. It's an easy read, with lots of pictures and some good 'first Miata' stories. It's entertaining with a few surprises and some basic day-to-day fixing-up-a-car information. Maybe it will inspire others to restore Miatas. There are still thousands of the NAs out there, waiting for some TLC.



Copyright@2012 by Terese Mac Davis