



## Let's Celebrate Worldwide VW Beetle Day

To truly appreciate the life we live, there are certain things I believe everyone should do—at least once.

- Wait tables at a restaurant. Hungry people are sometimes grumpy people. Having to smile in the face of adversity is a skill we all should learn.
- Drive a vehicle that has manual transmission. Having to shift gears teaches you to pay closer attention & to listen while driving—a valuable skill.
- Be away from family on a “family” holiday like Christmas. It makes you appreciate traditions & those with whom you share it.
- Drive a VW Beetle. Owning your own car is always a learning experience, but a Beetle comes with its own set of fun!

June 22nd is Worldwide VW Beetle Day! Never before has such a utilitarian vehicle gained so much notoriety. My Mom's sister drove a bug when I was growing up and I remember the sound of the pedals as she pressed down and then popped up the clutch. I'm not sure why, but that sound stuck with me. Maybe it was because she was so cool, but I wanted a bug because of Aunt Linda.

When I was accepted into Columbia College, I was told I could live on campus

or be given a car to drive. As someone who has had a job since the age of 15, & was frequently being called as a sub in church at the last minute, being without a car was not an option. So, at the end of my senior year in high school, Dad got me a 1972 orange super beetle dubbed “Charlie”. I thought it was coolest thing around! It even had a sunroof, that, like everything else on it, was manual. The gas gauge was also manual. I would tap it when I got in the car. It would slowly move to show me what I had in the tank and then slowly go back to “E”.

Anyone who has ever driven a bug learns that the running boards are not just ornamental, but are completely necessary when trying to start it on a cold morning...or just a Wednesday. Push it like a scooter, jump in & pop the clutch. This was made much easier by parking on a slope on the street instead of in the student parking lot. Luckily there was a gas station at the bottom of that hill and they knew me well.

Charlie's stereo had a cassette player that came in handy when studying songs for my voice professor or when the Hi-C's were on a road trip & needed to go over our music before a big

performance. Charlie and I went everywhere together—even my high school graduation! Like me, Charlie had his own maroon cap complete with maroon and gold tassel that Dad helped me make. And yes, I drove to the Carolina Coliseum that way!

Most of my friends at CC drove fancy cars, spent money “daddy” put in their checking accounts and scheduled their classes around the best time to get a tan on the roof of the dorm. I took 22 credit hours, worked 5 part-time jobs, gained valuable life experience & wouldn’t change a THING! Thanks Mom & Dad!

### Now on to important stuff...

#### The Week of June 21-27:

- National Play Catch Week
- Old Time Fiddlers Week
- World Hula Week
- Watermelon Seed Spitting Week

#### Some fun only lasts a day:

- 21st**-Cuckoo Warning Day  
Make Music Day  
National Day of the Gong  
Tall Girl Appreciation Day
- 22nd**-HVAC Technicians Day  
Stupid Guy Thing Day  
Worldwide VW Beetle Day\*
- 23rd**-Eat at a Food Truck Day  
Detroit-style Pizza Day  
Pink Flamingo Day  
National Hydration Day
- 24th**-National Handshake Day  
World UFO Day
- 25th**-Color TV Day

- Drive Your Corvette to Work Day
- Global Beatles Day
- International Rosé Day
- National Food Truck Day

- 26th**-Harry Potter Day  
National Canoe Day  
Backyard Campout Day

- 27th**-Celebrate Joy Day  
Decide to be Married Day  
Log Cabin Day  
National Onion Day  
National Sunglasses Day

Have a great week & call if you need anything!

***Serving Him & Loving it!***

*Carol* 😊

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