



MEMBER MOMENT DAVID & ERIN Israel

How old are you, what is your occupation, and where do you live? Our ages average out to 36. We both work for a small appliance company in Richmond fulfilling a lifelong dream of selling blenders and toasters to the world. I (David) work in international sales which requires a lot of travel to Latin America. This works out well since I was born and raised in Mexico City and can exercise my Spanish. Erin escaped from New Jersey to attend the University of Richmond. She works in national sales, mostly dealing with big retailers in the U.S. We got married near Mexico City in 2005 while on a 3 year work assignment there and returned that same year. We now live near the University of Richmond.

What was your first car? My first car was a 1986 Volkswagen Rabbit, one of the last ones made. That started a passion for German cars at a tender age. As a reformed non-car person, Erin can't remember what her first car was. Surely it was beige and lacked soul, most likely a very practical appliance that got good mileage and could seat four adults in comfort. Fortunately she has since come around and now drives an extremely sporty sedan, which we picked up in Germany last year.

What was your first Porsche? Current Porsche? Any modifications? My first Porsche was a 2000 Boxster which I unfortunately had to sell when we moved out of the country. It introduced me to the world of Porsche cars but more importantly to an amazing group of people who are passionate about them. We often marvel at how a common interest can bring people of such varied backgrounds together, it's great. We currently have a 1987 911 and a 2000 996 which is my daily driver. Most modifications have been made to the '87 and are geared towards making it more capable on the track. The 996 is mostly stock except for tires and brake pads for track duty.

Why did you choose this model? I have always admired the classic 911 shape and sound. There are few others that are as iconic a sports car in my mind. I also distinctly remember having a poster with a car very similar to mine on my bedroom wall when I was a teenager. It is also universally known that red is the fastest color. We HAD to buy the 996 when Richmond summers required functional A/C, it also provided Erin with a car she was more comfortable driving on the track. We also agree that it is quite a testament to Porsche durability that you can drive hard on the track for three days, drive home and go to the office on Monday morning in the same car without giving up much comfort or performance.

What is your earliest Porsche memory? David: Riding in the unbelievably uncomfortable back seat of one of my parents' friends 911. As I painfully extricated myself from it I remember thinking it was the coolest car ever. Maybe it was lack of blood flow to the brain.

Erin: I only started noticing cars when I began dating David so I would have to say my earliest Porsche memory was when I first drove one! David wouldn't ever let me drive his Boxster, but figured it was OK to gamble with a bright yellow loaner while his was being serviced. We went down a really curvy (and rather isolated) road which was lots of fun.

What is your dream Porsche and why? Erin: For me it would have to be our silver 996 with sport suspension, racing seats and harnesses, Hoosiers, and a lap timer. (Hint, hint David)!

David: I am a sucker for vintage cars, especially 911's. There is a certain purity and purpose that I love about them. I would have to say a 1973 911 rs would fit the bill nicely. A RUF yellowbird would also be on the short list.

What is your favorite Porsche-related activity? In the past three years we have become thoroughly addicted to driving on the track. Not only is it extremely rewarding and fun, but we have managed to make a lot of very good friends we consider our "track family". We are also extremely spoiled to have one of the best tracks in the country a short drive away. We also enjoy tours, especially in the fall as Virginia provides for spectacular scenery not far from where we live.

What is your all-time favorite Porsche and why? Erin: David's '87 911. It is such a beautiful car.....

David: I have quite a few favorites and they often change. Right now I think I would have to say the 1973 RS or late model 930's. I've always liked 993 widebodies and love the 997 GT3 RSR, don't get me started.

What is your favorite driving song? David: It really depends on the mood or situation, many times I will just listen to the engine. I am very fortunate that Erin tolerates my somewhat questionable taste in music. If I had to pick one it would probably be something by Lloyd Cole.

Erin: I like to listen to The Pogues album "If I Should Fall from Grace". We discovered this CD in a rental car in Ireland and lack of radio reception meant we listened to it over and over during our 1,000 mile tour of the country. It's really fun music that brings back good memories and gets me excited about wherever I am going!

What non-Porsche activities do you enjoy? We like to travel and enjoy skiing, tennis and a few other sports. Cooking (and consequently eating) is a favorite pastime especially if we are in the company of friends and/or family.