

**Dan's 55<sup>th</sup> : March 2025** It's been nearly a year since this ride; the memories are a bit vague.

As I recall, Dan was an avid motorcyclist but, as is often the case, went dormant when children came. He has an interesting custom of doing something special and different on his birthday. This ride was to commemorate his 55<sup>th</sup> year of existence. Sounds pretty good, right?

Of course, having not ridden for decades gives one pause for thought, no? Realizing that his riding skills could be rusty, Dan planned this Custom Tour. He would ride a super-user-friendly bike: the CB400F. I would shepherd him in the R100S/EML sidecar rig. His wife and son would accompany us alternating: one of them in the sidecar, while the other drove their family car.



Dan is not foolish. He approached the task with appropriate care, and we had glorious weather for this early in the season. We rode about 40 miles to Marsh Creek State Park. After a rest stop there, we took a different route back; bike, sidecar rig, and automobile in procession. I am thinking we must have stopped for a bite to eat somewhere but I don't remember where. What I do remember is that Dan rode well enough: and his wife and son also enjoyed the day...it is so great to be out in the sun after winter is done. I also recall doing a sidecar wheelie which elicited a scream from the Mrs. 'Flying the chair' always gets an interesting reaction from a newbie passenger.

It's nearly time for his 56<sup>th</sup> birthday. What interesting activity has Dan lined up for this year?