

The Gift

09-21-2015 by Harry Zirkelbach
Stars and Sun date 34194

My older brother is ill, cancer and liver failure. He cannot work again. I decide that he should have a working auto, and I would get him something dependable. Scan the salvage literature, finally find an unbelievable Ford Focus. It had been an accident in Pennsylvania, was declared "totaled" by the Insurer. Latter someone had transported the undriveable car to California where I learned of its availability, price. I check with the Auction House, agree on a price, now possess a decent car to give my brother Tom.

The car had been heavily damaged on right front, that door and fender mashed. Noting else on the 2006 Ford exterior was scratched, though the front tie-rods holding that wheel required professional straightening. Replacement of the damaged pieces was bought through dealers, and I replaced the damaged fender and door. The color was a good match, for apparently the former owner had kept the Ford out of the wether, and further, the 66913 Odometer reading was true.

I obtained a California three day permit, drove the Ford to Denver from Los Angeles where I live. That required much of Thursday of my three day holiday. On Friday dad and I went to the Denver Motor Vehicle License Office in Five Points. In a remarkable short time I was submitting a license application for the Fiesta.

The News. The paperwork was incomplete. We needed a VIN inspection. Told where I might get that get that today we leave with that intent, hoping to return for the promised immediate license issuance. Sound too good? It was. The Office we are sent to. sign on door CLOSED FRIDAY, though there were people inside, none would come to the door. Return empty handed, told nothing could be done without that VIN inspection and approval.

The Three Day Temporary Transit Permit was expiring. And I had to return to work on Sunday via Frontier. Dad would have to complete the paper work.

The following Monday, Labor Day. Government Offices closed.

Later in the week I hear from Dad. Five VIN Inspection Offices have been designated. Couldn't believe his news, First appointment a month away. Then the third and fourth, almost two month away. He retreated to an earlier disappointments. Agreed to end of September, Before

another word, is told two things needed, the vehicle must be designated as SALVAGE, plus have paperwork proving purchase of any item replaced. Dad calls, asking that be sent to him. He then contacts authorized dealer for the SALVAGE imprint of the driver's side door frame. Turns out to be simple, Hammering with a heavy die the word SALVAGE on the door frame.

With both done, Dad calls to reconfirm the VIN inspection date. Whoops. When not having the required two items earlier, that inspection date had been cancelled. Now in mid October. But wait, Dad calls the other office with earlier availability. Sure enough its still open late September.

Now when the Vin Inspection is complete, Dad and brother Tom to go to the head of he line at the Denver Motor Vehicle License Office, submit paperwork to obtain a Colorado Auto License Plates for the Ford Fiesta.

Unless another glitch appears.

Meanwhile none can drive the car.

I hope my brother can hold his breath that long.

Then Dad and Tom o to another Colorado Motor Vehicle Office. There none of the inspections are demanded and in an hour the car is licensed.

Seems that some Government Red Tape is no more than one individual.