

Two Amazing Riders

*The First Two Women in North America to Document Riding
One Million Miles on BMW Motorcycles*



AS THEY APPROACHED THIS ACCOMPLISHMENT they arranged to meet in Ouray, Colorado to ride their one-millionth miles together on U.S. Highway 550, the “Million Dollar Highway.”

They reached this milestone at Red Mountain Overlook between Ouray and Silverton, Colorado the morning of August 30, 2011. Dealership documentation of their achievements has been sent to BMW Motorrad U.S.A. and to the BMW Motorcycle Owners of America, each of which provides mileage awards at 100,000 mile intervals.

Glaves, 64, is a retired teacher who resides in Big Bend, Texas just north of Big Bend National Park. Kellerman, 79, is a retired electronics technician who resides in Lexington, Texas. Both have been riding BMW motorcycles for many years. Kellerman bought her first BMW in 1985. Glaves first BMW was her Mother’s Day present in 1977.

Glaves accumulated the million miles on 15 different BMWs over the years since then. Her highest mileage on a single motorcycle was 357,658 miles on a 1993 R1100RS, which she still owns. Kellerman has owned 16 BMWs including a 1999 R1100RT with 170,000 miles.

Both Kellerman and Glaves are experienced long distance endurance riders. Glaves finished the 11-day Iron Butt Rally in 2003. Kellerman completed the biennial 11-day Iron Butt Rally four times.

More on Ardys, from Voni Glaves:

Ardys Kellerman didn’t start out to be a superhero. She was Mom to four kids. She had to work hard to support them on her own. Almost 40 years ago, she started off with a little Yamaha that came with a camper she purchased. That got her going and so she got a motorcycle license and learned on her own. When her van blew up she picked up a CB360 Honda to get to work and back. When she decided she could use a larger bike, her search took her to a Honda dealer. An 18-year-old customer was more interesting to the salesman than this young Mom, so Ardys decided to go elsewhere. After listening to another salesman tell a young couple about the Shadow she’d researched, he turned to her, assuming she was with them. He listened to her and then suggested she might actually like a BMW R80RT better. She admitted to him that it looked too big and she was afraid she might drop it. He dismissed her concerns with ease and suggested she come back with her riding gear when it wasn’t raining. BMW’s are all she’s had ever since. Her last few bikes have all been Oilhead RT’s.

Is she really a superhero, you might wonder. Here are a few facts that Ardys is too modest to bring up. She was a licensed airplane pilot. She bred and showed dogs and horses before motorcycling became so important to her. She retired as an electronics technician at age 70.

Congratulations, ladies. And ride safe!



Photos: Paul Glaves

One Million Miles!

“No one, most of all me, could have guessed when it took 100 miles of practice before I felt willing to leave our yard in the country that a million sMiles was in my future. Motorcycling and my motorcycling friends have enriched my life beyond measure.”

~Voni Glaves

“Today, I found myself telling my GPS to plot the shortest route instead of the fastest!”

~ Ardys Kellerman