# ROB MYERS

*CEO and Founder, RM Group of Companies*

Rob Myers is the founder of the RM Group of Companies, beginning his career in a one-car garage and over the course of three decades becoming the head of the world's leading international auction house for vintage automobiles.

Born and raised in Chatham, Ontario, Myers received an early introduction to the collector car hobby through his father's passion and knowledge of early Fords. His first taste of the business side of the hobby began with a 1959 Edsel Corsair, a gift from his father. After working day and night on its restoration, he promptly traded it for a Triumph Bonneville motorcycle. That gave way to other bikes, and then to a series of Harley-Davidsons, the last of which he still owns today. In fact, Rob's passion for bikes and deal-making eventually led him to build Duke's Harley-Davidson, a state-of -the-art dealership located adjacent to RM's complex on Highway 401.

Myers' passion for four-wheeled machines started with a small and highly-respected restoration shop in Chatham. A skilled painter in his own right, he quickly developed a following among car collectors, who began to come from further and further away as the company's reputation spread. Rob's main focus was always classic cars–whether auctioning, buying, selling, or restoring. The experience with his '59 Edsel set the stage for future transactions and turned his lifelong passion for unique, classic, and exotic cars into a full-time business venture.

"I started out making repairs and engine and performance upgrades, and I eventually graduated to bodywork modifications and custom paint," says Myers. "By 1979, I was able to open a dedicated restoration and sales facility, and I was determined to become a successful restoration and sales expert, like car legends Bob Adams and Tiny Gould. My ultimate goal at that time was to establish a first-rate restoration shop like Billy Thompson had at White Post Restorations in Virginia."

Throughout the 1980s, Myers was actively buying and selling cars, sometimes bringing dozens of vehicles to collector car auctions. As his sales business continued to thrive, he decided to bring on two enthusiastic partners, Dan Warrener and Mike Fairbairn. In spite of the well-known recession of the early 1990s, RM grew rapidly, and the three decided to move into the auction business with the acquisition of Canada's largest classic car event in Toronto. With Rob's drive and determination, the resources of his partners and staff, and an expansion into Europe, RM Auctions quickly carved a reputation as the world's premier auction house and restoration facility for vintage motor cars.