



Proud designer-builder David Peterson stands in front of his newest creation.

ULTRA VAN - THE FOURTH SERIES

David Peterson does it again, this time on a smaller scale. The "700 Series" ULTRA VAN is 20 feet long, 7½ feet high, and 7½ feet wide. With no interior it weighs about 1600 pounds. Power is a side-mounted (driver's side) Chevette engine and drive train. A solid rear axle with air bag suspension and independent front wheel suspension.

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FIRST CLASS

The vehicle really sets low. About 8 inches off the ground, with a full body pan on the bottom. Holes for wheels and air intakes only. This helps greatly reduce drag. The wheel base is long enough so as not to drag on driveways, but can still make a respectable "U" turn.

Dave plans a door just behind the passenger seat. The basic layout of the Van is still to be determined, which will dictate the location of the windows to be cut.

I drove the vehicle and was really impressed. With David and me and 200 pounds of ballast it accelerated really well, much better than I had expected. It lays you back in your seat. Of course this may change with the additional weight of a fitted interior.

But the most amazing part is how it handles. Just like a sports car. I was really impressed (and I'm not easily impressed). Doing quick short turns at 45 M.P.H., there was no sway or drifting. The center of gravity is low; maybe when the cabinets are installed this will change. I hope not. I have never driven such a large vehicle that handled so well. I can't stand up in the Van (I'm 6'4") but David Peterson has ample headroom. This is a compromise to get a smaller more economical vehicle.

David is in his 70th year and still going strong. His wife Lucille may help again with the interior. If anyone has any questions, he loves to talk (on your nickel). This phone is Oakland, California: Area Code 415 531-0586.

The master does it again!

W. CHRISTY BARDEN



Looking foward from middle of Van



Looking aft from middle of Van



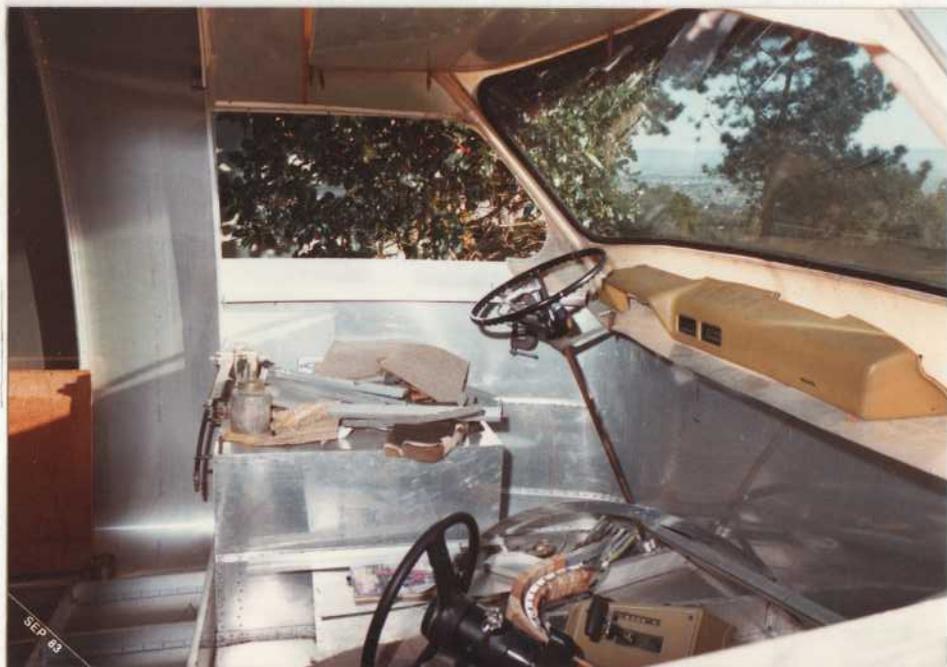
Peterson checking rear of Van



Looking from the aft, toward the front



Rear axle, differantial at far left covered with plastic.



Chevette steering wheel



Side mounted Chevette engine with radiator.

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THANK YOU (the staff)

