



The Old Geezer

The other day, while waiting my turn at the local cycle shop's parts counter, I overheard several young 30ish bikers talking about another biker. The reference was made of the fact that he rode like an 'Old Geezer', an obvious reference to his age, or was it? How does one 'Old Geezer' get that way? Does he always dress a certain way? You know the type, they always wear boots, long pants, long sleeve riding jacket, a highly visible reflective vest, helmet and gloves. No, that is too obvious, and many people of all ages dress that way.

Perhaps they were referring to his habits on the road. I'll bet he is the guy that never, well hardly ever, goes over the speed limit. You know the one. He keeps in the left hand wheel track of the right hand lane. He always uses his directional signals, even when he is the only one around for miles. He never scrapes the pegs or floor boards going around a corner. Usually he is the one with more than the two second space between himself and the vehicle in front. Man, that is really riding like an 'Old Geezer'!



I remember the type. He is the one who was drinking iced tea at the local bar and grill. He liked to stop there because it is just about half way into his two hour ride. He said, "No sense rushing the trip, after all, it's the ride, not the destination, that matters."

"Did you notice the bike he was riding? There were enough lights and reflectors on that rig to drain the battery in 30 minutes. You could see him coming from miles away and from the back it looked like a Las Vegas lighting contractor wired up his display", was the next comment that I heard from this pair at the bike shop.

I got to thinking, "Did I know who they were talking about? Half the guys I ride with fit that description. Golly, I may even fall into that classification". Did the term 'Old Geezer' refer to his age? I was about to interject a few words into the conversation and give those two young 'whippersnappers' a verbal admonition about the values that they appeared to be knocking, when one of them said, "How do you think a biker gets to live long enough to be an 'Old Geezer'?"

Well that made this 'Old Geezer's' day! As I put on my gloves and helmet and rode off into the sunset I thought that there may be some hope for those youngsters.

Ride safe and be seen,

Larry and Barbara Franklin
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