

**Notable Years in the Life of O. Bruton Smith**

March 2, 1927 – Born in Oakboro, North Carolina to James and Mollie Smith.

1959 – Construction begins at Charlotte Motor Speedway, the first of eight premier NASCAR facilities Bruton Smith now owns.

1960 – Charlotte Motor Speedway hosts the World 600, the first-ever 600-mile NASCAR race. A Memorial Day weekend classic now known as the Coca-Cola 600, the event is considered among NASCAR’s most prestigious events.

1975 – More than a decade after Charlotte Motor Speedway faced bankruptcy for the purpose of reorganization, Bruton Smith purchases enough shares in the speedway to again become the majority stakeholder.

1981 – Performance Racing Network is formed. Today, race fans across the country can tune in to more than two dozen live Sprint Cup and XFINITY Series race broadcasts and year-round original NASCAR programming through a network of more than 700 affiliate stations.

1982 – Smith founds Speedway Children’s Charities, a philanthropic effort that provides educational, medical and social support to children in need. Over the past three decades, Speedway Children’s Charities has expanded to include branches at each of Smith’s eight speedways and combined for donations of more than $46 million to deserving charities across the country.

1984 – Charlotte Motor Speedway becomes the first sports facility in America to offer year-round living accommodations with the construction of 40 condominiums outside of Turn 1.

1988 – The Speedway Club opens at Charlotte Motor Speedway, offering fans a luxury dining and entertainment venue overlooking the iconic 1.5-mile superspeedway.

1990 – Smith acquires Atlanta Motor Speedway, which boasted some of the fastest lap times in NASCAR history at the time.

1992 – Charlotte Motor Speedway installs a revolutionary $1.7 million, 1,200-fixture MUSCO lighting system, allowing it to become the first modern superspeedway to host night racing.

1992 – US Legend Cars International, Inc. launches, beginning a highly-accelerated R&D program of a new racecar that is affordable, races on smaller tracks and has low maintenance costs, sparking a boom in the grassroots racing community.

1994- Smith founds Speedway Motorsports, Inc. by consolidating his motorsports holdings.

1995 – Speedway Motorsports, Inc. becomes the first motorsports company to trade on the New York Stock Exchange.

1995- Smith breaks ground on Texas Motor Speedway, a 1.5-mile superspeedway with state-of-the-art amenities, that later hosted the largest sporting event in Texas history.

1996 – Smith expands his ownership to the west and adopts Sonoma Raceway, one of only two road courses on the NASCAR circuit.

1996 – Smith adds Bristol Motor Speedway to his growing speedway empire. The last great coliseum is the fourth largest sports venue in America.

1998 – Smith purchases Las Vegas Motor Speedway, which is conveniently located just 15 miles from the Las Vegas Strip. Over the years, Smith added unique fan amenities like the wildly-popular Neon Garage to get fans closer to the action.

2008 – Smith expands his ownership footprint further north, adding New Hampshire Motor Speedway, the largest sports venue of any type in its region.

2008 – Smith acquires Kentucky Speedway and renovates the 1.5-mile superspeedway to fit NASCAR Sprint Cup Series standards. In only two years, Smith was able to use his expertise to bring NASCAR Sprint Cup Series racing to the Bluegrass State.

2011 – Smith revolutionizes the at-track experience with the construction of a 16,000-square-foot HDTV along the backstretch at Charlotte Motor Speedway. Built in partnership with Panasonic, at the time the screen was the world’s largest HDTV.

2013 – Smith and his team at Bristol Motor Speedway announce plans for the “Battle at Bristol.” Billed as college football’s biggest game ever, battle between Virginia Tech Hokies and Tennessee Volunteers is scheduled for September 2016.

2014 – Smith one-ups his own world record with the construction of “Big Hoss TV” at Texas Motor Speedway. The 20,000-square-foot HD board holds the Guinness World Record as the world’s largest HD screen. The following year, Bristol Motor Speedway announces plans to construct Colossus, the world's largest outdoor, permanent, center-hung digital display.

2016 – Smith inducted into the NASCAR Hall of Fame.