

1978 Ford LTD II Brougham



This is the first in what I hope to be a series of posts chronicling the 18 or so cars I have owned over the years. The one pictured here (not the actual car, of course) is the 1978 Ford LTD II Brougham. The "II" in the name I can only imagine means 'twice the weight necessary'. My brother and I used to say LTD meant 'Light Tank Destroyer'. This was the car on which I learned to drive. For my first lesson, my dad took me to the local racetrack in the middle of the night, broke in by pulling a piece of loose fence aside, and put me behind the wheel. So, careening around a racetrack at night in a '78 LTD was how I learned to drive. This car had one side of the rear bumper held on by bungee straps, due to a notorious rust problem that caused the bumper bolts to come free of the frame. My brother was involved in a five-car pileup in the LTD that caused the four other cars to be totaled. He simply strapped the bumper back into place and drove home – no other damage to the car.