

One would think that at some point during our childhoods, that Adam Sorokin and I would have crossed paths at one race or another in Southern California. But as fate would have it, we didn't officially meet until we were both adults, and both finishing our licenses in funny cars at the Nitro Blast Off in Las Vegas in 2006. Adam was in a Fuel Funny Car, and of course I was in my alcohol funny car.

Since that time, Adam and I have become pretty good friends and he is someone that I have supported as a racer ever since that weekend. Not until last year at the Bowling Green Hot Rod Reunion, did I have the opportunity to tell him that.

I truly hope that you enjoy reading this as much as I have enjoyed doing the research and writing even more inside tidbits of my Southern California friend who is the only son from the Original Surfers, AA/Fuel Dragster from the sixties.



Adam Sorokin

Adam Sorokin, a racer who was born in 1966 has built a resume of driving race cars from formula fords to karts and alcohol funny cars to nostalgia top fuel dragsters. He is a second generation racer from his family and is currently driving two different Nostalgia Top Fuel Dragsters. The first is the car that he went to the final round in last year at Bowling Green. It is Brian Van Dyke's RB Entertainment Nostalgia T/F Dragster. The second is a small block Chevy powered T/F dragster that is known as the Champion Speed Shop Nostalgia T/F Dragster, owned by RB Entertainment Crew Chief, Bobby McLennan.



Adam and Mike Sorokin

Adam always knew he wanted to drag race, but also knew what his monetary limitations were when he was younger. So with the racing fire within him, he put himself into Kart Racing. He raced Karts for a few years and during that time graduated from six different racing schools. The schools he attended are Jim Russell Racing School, Legends Racing School, Jim Hall Kart Racing School, KRC Kart Racing School, Drivotech Driving School and last but not least, Frank Hawley's School. Each one taught Adam something different to add to his quest for knowledge to be a better driver and to get the necessary licenses to pursue his dreams.

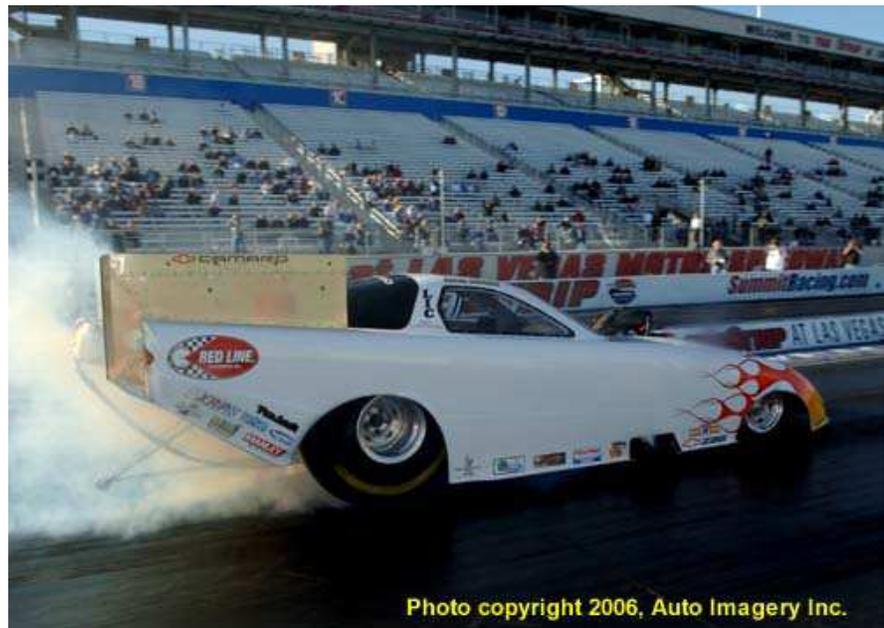
Here is a list of all the different types of fast (and unique) cars that Adam has driven to date:

An NHRA Fuel Funny Car, Nostalgia Top Fuel Dragster, Alcohol Funny Car, Super Comp Dragster, Nostalgia Junior Fuel Dragster, NASCAR Southwest Tour Car, Formula Ford, Spec Car Renault, SCCA Improved Touring B class, Legends, Karts (KT 100, Superbox, 80cc & 125 shifter) and... he even drove the caboose car in a figure eight train race once!



Hooked up and Hauling!

Now for those of you who don't know this about Adam, Adam's dad was Mike Sorokin. Driver of the legendary Surfers Top Fuel Team, a very successful West Coast front engine top fuel dragster. Mike and his crew literally wore Van's shoes and rode skateboards around the pits and that's how their name came about. What made them so unique and successful, is they were crazy enough to be one of the first teams to realize that 50% nitro wasn't enough, and they went for the 100%. Low and behold, guess how the world of Nitro changed. They figured out how to make it that class.



License Pass in Vegas 2006

work and rapidly became the West Coast Hitters in

Most of this was prior to Adam's birth and as fate would have it, his dad passed from a clutch and drive line failure at Orange County Raceway when young Adam was only a year old. His mom was only 18 at the time. The one and only race that Adam's mom, Robyn, stayed home with her infant son .

From that point on, Adam and his mom became best of friends. His mom always made sure that Adam had the best of his Dad close within his heart. Even if he didn't ask, his mom would tell him what his dad was like, as a person, a racer, a dad and yes, being a member of The Surfers. Even today if you go and mention his dad, Adam beams a big smile, fond memories and is proud to tell you anything and everything as long as he has time in his busy racing schedule.

Now I asked Adam to give me a tidbit about his mom and this is what he gave me. His mom never remarried up to her untimely passing of cancer when he was 18 years old. However, she did have some very interesting boyfriends. One of them he recalls was a jewelry thief/safe cracker that they lived with for a while. Can you imagine explaining that kind of job to a youngster?

Adam also went to Europe twice and traveled for several months at a time with his mom as a kid.

In my opinion, what a smart woman to teach her child at such a young age what a big world there really is out there. An extremely good hands on World History class.

Prior to her passing and after her diagnosis, Adam stayed with her every moment he could. She knew deep down what her son wanted to do and unselfishly gave her his blessing to be the man he needed to be



Adam and Jenni



Adam and his son, Mikey

and become that driver he so longed for. From that point on, that's exactly what Adam has pursued.

Right now, Adam works at his company by day that he started a little more than a year ago, Superior QC Services LLC, where they perform quality control for digital masters of television and feature films. He has a 9 year old son named Mikey and a girlfriend of 4 years, Jenni. His son, of course, already has the racing bug, but for now plays baseball and electric guitar.

Adam had the record for the quickest single run in a front engine nostalgia Top Fuel Dragster at 5.703, a run that held up for two years. He is also one of seven people ever to run over 260 miles per hour in a front engine dragster with a 260.71 mph at Pomona in 2007. He has been as quick as a 5.41 in a Fuel Funny Car but knows that they had some mechanical issues and looks forward to the day where he can run faster. He was the 2001 California Independent Funny Car Association Rookie of the Year and won the CIFCA 2002 Championship. He's one of the best leavers from the starting line as he's had the best Nostalgia Fuel Dragster average from 2005 through 2008 and is hoping to keep that going for this year.

The only thing I'd like to add about my friend, Adam Sorokin, is that there is so much more to him. This profile is only tapping on a small part of his life and his career. I look forward to when we can race together and hopefully, it will be within the Professional ranks in the NHRA.



Adam and His Mom, Robyn Ready to Travel



Adam--Burnout in Bakersfield