

Princess Diana's Car Auctioned Days Before Her Death Anniversary

VOCABULARY WORDS

1. Auction /'ɔ:kʃən/ (noun) a public sale where things are sold to the person who offers to pay the most
Example: Lupin stole the blue diamond at the auction.
2. Anniversary /,æmə'versəri:/ (noun) the date when an important or notable event happened
Example: When is your company's founding anniversary?
3. Request /rɪ'kwɛst/ (noun) an act of asking for something, often in a polite or formal way
Example: I'm afraid I cannot grant his request for it is too much.
4. Feature /'fi:tʃə/ (noun) an important quality or attribute of something
Example: The gadget is worth its price because of all its advanced features.
5. Divorce /dɪ'vɔ:rs/ (verb) to legally end a marriage
Example: My parents divorced when I was just a young kid.
6. Mark /mɑ:rk/ (verb) to recognize or celebrate something important with a particular action
Example: This film marks his return to acting.



A car driven by Princess Diana in the 1980s sold for \$764,000 at an auction on August 27, just days before the 25th anniversary of her death. The Escort, which has about 40,000 kilometers on it, was sold by Silverstone Auctions to an unnamed UK buyer.

Diana drove the Ford Escort RS Turbo from 1985 to 1988. She was photographed with it outside shops and restaurants in different parts of London. She preferred to drive her own car, with a member of the Royalty Protection Command in the passenger seat.

The RS Turbo Series 1 was usually manufactured in white, but according to the auction house Ford made Diana's in black to make it less noticeable at the request of the Royalty Protection Command. Ford also included extra features for her security, such as a second rear-view mirror for her security officer. In June 2021, another Ford Escort that Diana used sold at auction for about \$60,000.

Diana married Prince Charles, the eldest son of Queen Elizabeth II, in 1981. The couple had two sons — Prince William and Prince Harry — but divorced in 1996. Britain and Diana fans around the world are preparing to mark 25 years since her death. She died at the age of 36 in a car crash in Paris on August 31, 1997, along with her partner, Dodi Fayed, and the driver, Henri Paul.

DISCUSSION

1. What are your thoughts on Princess Diana's Ford Escort selling for \$764,000?
2. Do you know any Princess Diana fans?
3. What kind of cars does the royal family of Japan have?
4. If you were filthy rich, would you prefer to be driven or to drive your own car?
5. What do you imagine cars will be like 50 years from now?