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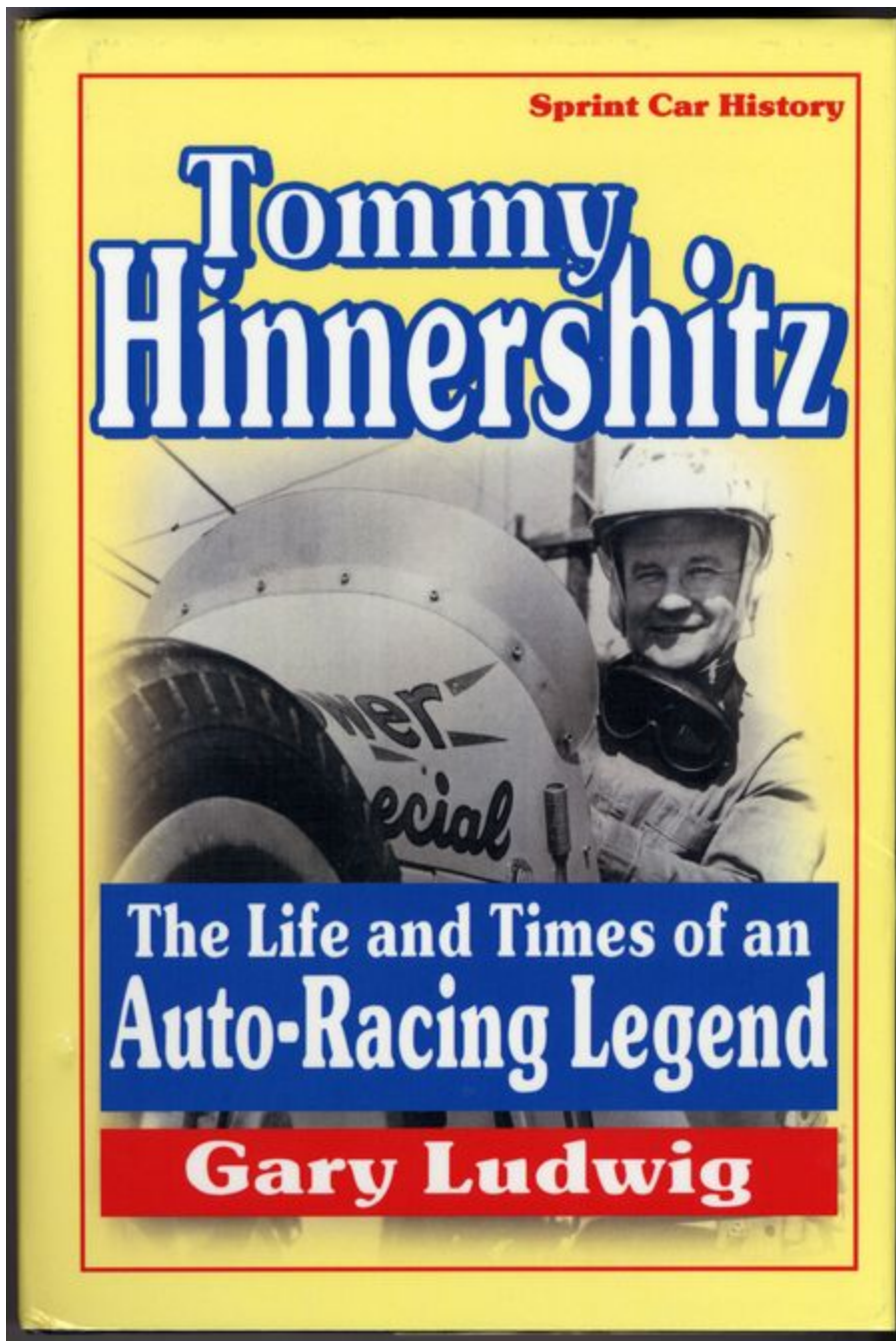
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## [Booking the best ever](#)

Every morning, the first thing I see when I wake up is Tommy Hinnershitz. Not my wife. Don't surmise anything: I've got a framed print of Tommy on my side of the bed. Who, pray tell, is Tommy Hinnershitz? The greatest, most innately skilled dirt track driver that the East Coast has ever produced, a veteran of the most brutally violent era in American auto racing and a humble, gentle farmer above it all.



This, at long last, is “Tummy’s” story. Authored by Pennsylvania historian and novelist Gary Ludwig, this first-ever Hinnershitz biography is a deeply researched tale, crisply written, of the quiet Pennsylvania Dutchman from Berks County. It encompasses 260 pages, with photos, and what is most probably the first authoritative statistical accounting of every start that Hinnershitz made in his stellar career, which began in 1928 and lasted through his (probably miraculous) retirement in 1960. That appendix runs to nearly 90 pages. Every stellar open-wheeler from the East, Eddie Sachs to Lynn Paxton to Lance Dewease, has Tommy as his godfather. This book was decades overdue and very welcome. To get it, for \$33.80 including shipping, call 717-383-7112 or visit <http://www.basketroadpress.com/>.

This entry was posted on Friday, March 13th, 2009 at 11:04 am and is filed under [Jim Donnelly](#), [racing](#), [literature](#). You can follow any responses to this entry through the [RSS 2.0](#) feed. You can [leave a response](#), or [trackback](#) from your own site.

## One Response to “Booking the best ever”

1. *David Greenlees* Says:  
[March 13th, 2009 at 5:52 pm](#)

Tummy’s story is a must read, he was an incredible person from a different time.

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