

Contents

July/August 2012

THE READS

90 Cars: An American Love Story Susan Straight looks back at her favorite car. Plus, the wheels that defined our culture and the ones we'll never forget.

FROM THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

96 The Meeting He'll Always Remember When former secretary of state Colin Powell met with foreign exchange students, they affirmed his belief in America's greatness.

FROM IT WORKED FOR ME

102 Deadly Mind Traps Five chilling stories reveal how our instincts can steer us wrong.

FROM PSYCHOLOGY TODAY

108 The Gratitude Club For 50 years, Woody Davis was the ultimate good neighbor. Now he's getting the send-off of a lifetime.

FROM THE CBS NEWS ARCHIVES

112 My Nuclear Neighborhood Kristen Iversen reveals the dark side of living near a top-secret nuclear facility.

FROM FULL BODY BURDEN

RD CLASSIC
118 Letter in the Wallet

One man's remarkable journey returning a love letter. **ARNOLD FINE**, FROM READER'S DIGEST, SEPTEMBER 1985

124 We Hear You, America!

From Pea Ridge, Arkansas, to Norco, California, you told us why you love your town. Plus, we award \$235,000 to 18 towns for local projects.



Blast off!
1959 Cadillac
Series 62



GETTY IMAGES; ON THE COVER: GERRIT PETERSEN/GETTY IMAGES

ER

FOOL.

tions
your
price.

VE

states
range of
texts are
(02/12)



57

Tree houses for grownups!



51

Weird, wonderful ways to keep your car smelling clean

Contents

HUMOR

- 12 **Olympic Jokes We Love**
- 14 **Laughter, the Best Medicine**
- 16 **Life in These United States**
- 22 **All in a Day's Work**
- 24 **Humor in Uniform**

THE DIGEST

- 28 **Health** Toxic danger zones in your backyard; is meat good for you?
- 42 **Food** Candy quiz; star chefs on basil
- 51 **Home** Get rich off your junk; a new way to organize
- 57 **Travel** How to win at the carnival
- 75 **Family** Yes, love changes your brain; a son's eloquent plea for cash
- 78 **Culture** 13 things your TV weatherman won't tell you

DEPARTMENTS

- 5 **Editor's Note**
- 7 **React** Your letters
- 10 **Digital Extras**
- 163 **Books** Reviews and excerpts, including a story from a new memoir by our own Dawn Raffel
- 171 **Word Power**
EMILY COX & HENRY RATHVON
- 175 **Ask Laskas** JEANNE MARIE LASKAS
- 192 **Quotable Quotes**
Country music edition

Download This Issue!

The Reader's Digest app for the iPad and Kindle Fire has bonus content, video, and more ...

FROM TOP: COURTESY, PETER

readersdigest.com 7/12-8/12

★ ★ ★ ★

BBQ S

★ **YOU'LL**

WIPE

OFF YO

NO MSG, NO PRESERVATIVES
MADE WITH
ALL NATURAL
INGREDIENTS
NO ARTIFICIAL FLAVORS

Happiness is simple