

The Year Was 1961...

- First men in space: Yuri Gagarin from Soviet Union and Alan Shepard for the United States
- Berlin Wall is constructed
- US sends 15,000 troops to Vietnam
- First "In Flight" movies are shown on planes
- There are over 200 McDonald's Drive-ins in the US
- 87% of homes have one or more black and white TVs
- Average income is \$5,457 and the minimum wage is \$1.15
- Songs: "Big Bad John" by Jimmy Dean, "Are You Lonesome Tonight?" by Elvis and "Run A Round Sue" by Dion
- TV: Beverly Hillbillies, Twilight Zone, 'Tonight Show' with Jonny Carson and Dick Van Dyke Show
- Mickey Mantle is highest paid base ball player at \$75,000 while Roger Maris hits 61 homers

In 1961...

- The Corvette cost \$3934 It weighed 2840 lbs and 10,939 Corvettes were produced
- A refined, thin, vertical and horizontal bar grille and duck-tail rear end treatment with four cylindrical taillights quickly set the new 1961 Corvette apart from its predecessor.
- This design was a predecessor to the Sting Ray coming in 1963 and added more space to the Corvette's trunk.
- The rear emblem had a spun silver background with the crossed flags over a "V" design and the words "Chevrolet Corvette."
- The exhaust now exited under the car, rather than through bumper ports.
- This was the last year wide whitewall tires were available.
- It did the quarter mile in 15.5 seconds at 106 mph and had a maximum speed of 140 mph
- V-8 283-cid 315-hp fuel-injection engine cost \$484.20
- Powerglide automatic transmission was \$199.10

1961

