

**Wheels:** A letter from William of Dayton asks, “In your column on August 16, 2003, you addressed the oil consumption of a 1993 Mercury Grand Marquis. I have the same problem with my 1994 Grand Marquis and at 72,000 miles it is consuming 1 quart of oil every 1200 miles. The car runs great—the engine is smooth and quiet.

I am 88 years old and my driving future does not warrant spending \$500 or more to get into the head of that engine to replace those gaskets. My question to you is can I keep putting the oil in as I have been doing and keep it running for the next 3 years at the rate of 6000 miles per year?”

**Halderman:** You can continue to add oil. This is the least expensive solution. The heads do not have to be removed to replace the valve stem seals or the intake manifold gasket, which could be the cause of the oil consumption. In the mean time, a quart of oil every 1200 miles is cost effective.

