

RATAN NAVAL TATA (1937 - 2024)

By Dennis Catchpole

Jaguar lost on October 9th one of its great supporters, when Ratan Tata passed away aged 86. This man was one of the great Indian Businessman of our era, he ran the Tata company for 21 years increasing its revenue over that time by over 40 times and the profit over 50 times. Ratan never married but was associated with some very high-profile women over the years. He received many awards and Doctorates 50 in total from all over the world.



He studied at Cornell University in the USA and qualified with a Bachelor of Architecture. This Man saved JLR by buying the company from Ford and saved Ford from going under in 2008, the purchase price was \$2.3 billion. This was ironical as in 1999, after Ratan tried to produce a Hatchback Diesel Car, which didn't go to well, he approached Ford about buying the company.

They laughed at him and sent his team home from the meeting in the USA, without doing so, telling Ratan that he knew nothing about car production. JLR is now the backbone of the Tata car company.

I am practically fond of Ratan as when he brought JLR he told the English to go back to designing and producing the high-performance cars that they used to be so good at. He also told them to build a runner on from the Famous E-Type as he did not believe that they had ever achieved that. Ratan owned an E-Type himself. Hence was born the F-Type, one of which we own, a convertible 550 HP AWD just a fabulous car. We can drive the F-Type every day as a normal Car, press a few buttons and it becomes a monster sports car. The F-Type will be the classic E-Type of the future.

RIP Ratan Tata.

Dennis