



1966 Indianapolis 500®
#19 Jim Clark / STP Gasoline Treatment Lotus 38

Andy Granatelli of STP sought to buy a Lotus 38 after Jim Clark and Team Lotus dominated and won the 1965 Indianapolis 500®. Instead, Granatelli and Lotus founder Colin Chapman agreed to have STP sponsor two Lotus 38's at the Brickyard® in 1966, to be driven by Clark and sophomore Al Unser. Chapman joked that the STP 'Rocket Red' color of both cars was "Granatelli Green." Clark began practice on 5 May, and on 7 May he set the fastest time of the day with a 158.311 mph lap. Two days later Clark was again fastest with a hot lap of 162.984 mph. On the first day of Qualifying, Clark posted a speed of 164.144 mph to take 2nd spot on the grid, alongside pole sitter Mario Andretti. The 1966 Memorial Day Classic began with a mid-field wreck on the front straight that eliminated eleven cars, forcing a red-flag and more than an hour's delay to clean up the debris. Despite the mechanical carnage, there were only minor injuries among the affected drivers. Andretti took the lead on the restart, followed by Clark. Clark moved ahead on Lap 17 when Andretti's engine began smoking, and Andretti was black-flagged on Lap 26. At the 100-mile mark, Clark led Lloyd Ruby and Parnelli Jones. On the 64th lap, Clark spun coming out of the Northwest Turn, missed the inside wall, and continued into the pits for fuel, leaving Ruby in the 1st place, with Clark in 2nd. Clark regained the lead when Ruby pitted, but on Lap 83 Clark spun three complete revolutions in the North Short Chute. Clark made a stop for new tires, resuming the race in 2nd behind Ruby. At half-way, the order was Ruby, Clark, Roger McCluskey, Jim McElreath, Al Unser, Jones, and Graham Hill. Clark moved back into 1st on Lap 134 when Ruby made his last scheduled pit stop, but Clark had to pit nine laps later, and at this point Ruby had a 50-second lead. But Ruby was black-flagged for an oil leak on Lap 147, and three laps later Jackie Stewart passed Clark to take the lead. At the 400-mile mark Stewart led Clark and Hill by more than a lap, but Stewart slowed, and the others caught up. With 50 miles to go Stewart led Hill and Clark. On Lap 192 Stewart lost oil pressure and parked his car at the inside of the Northeast Turn, and Hill went into the lead for the first time. Graham Hill won the 1966 Indianapolis 500®, while Jim Clark led 66 laps and finished 2nd.

2
Started
Finished
2