



About Virgil Graham

Robert Virgil Graham was a fine and talented hand engraver who passed away in 2003 after many years of engraving, leaving behind a legacy of very fine arms.

Primarily a self-taught artist, Virgil Graham began painting since his childhood in South Carolina. During college, where he studied mechanical and design engineering he continued to paint, experimenting with a variety of mediums. In the early 1980's one of his paintings was runner up to a state duck stamp competition.

Graham was also an excellent and experienced gunsmith and hand engraver. His knowledge of and love for fine sporting weapons had led him into an unusual field of art, the hand engraving of guns. An almost dying art - there are very few hand engravers remaining in the country or that can meet Virgil's unique styling.

Virgil, worked full-time from his Marsh Haven studio in Savannah, Georgia, creating exquisite adaptations of original designs for Winchester, Colt, Fox and other fine old sporting guns. He enjoyed researching these designs, and if he is not at his engraving bench, chances are there is an old gun book or catalog in his hands as he pours over the intricately beautiful designs.

Graham also enjoyed the challenge of preparing designs for collectors who want something very personal. He has done a woodland scene with a special little country church in the background for a lady collector, a collectors family coat of arms done with precious 24k Gold metal inlays, and any number of unique designs for others and himself.

Virgil always said "When I start a gun, I can hardly wait to see the finished piece, It becomes an obsession and I work on it almost continuously until it's finished."

About Virgil Graham's Colt Single Action Army

This remarkable revolver was 24k Gold inlaid and hand engraved by Virgil Graham.

It has had the grip frame extended at its bottom edge for about an additional 1/2".

The bore is bright and excellent, likely unused.

The metal surfaces retain 99% of the Royal Blue finish and 99% inlay and engraving.

The bright-polished sides of the hammer remaining brilliant.

The arm shows fine 24k Gold wire inlay at the muzzle with open gold wire scroll continuing along the flute of the ejector rod housing.



There is open intertwining 24k Gold scroll on both left and right of barrel and on the outer edge of the ejector rod housing, this motif continuing onto the frame flats, recoil shield and the top knuckle of the backstrap, with more sprays on the bow of the guard and flat of the butt.

There is a small 24k Gold inlaid star on right of frame at the barrel bolster and intertwining geometric snakes of scroll along the top strap, with a lady's bust on frame left.

The cylinder has all three Rampant Colts and all three Colt trademarks, alternating between the flutes, and nice fine 24k Gold wire open scroll inlay to the rear.

The one-piece antique extended ivory grip rate excellent and shows appropriate age crackling along the bottom edges with the beginnings of antique drying checks one expects from aged ivory.

The hammer spring is quite light and obviously an action job has been done by "someone" who knew their business, and the action seems to function properly mechanically.

The frame is stamped with Mr. Graham's one-piece stamping "V Graham" just above the serial number.

The gun comes in a Colt Custom Shop presentation case with Colt logo in the lower right-hand corner and a burgundy interior, which rates excellent to new.

A gorgeous revolver with a really great feel to the grip, the entire piece is was wonderfully executed. Only the best for the best.

This is a rare your opportunity to own apart of modern day art that will last for eternity.