

Guy Boyd

Guy Boyd was born the year before the Titanic sunk.

Guy came to Titusville from Illinois in 1911 when he was six weeks old. (His birth date is 9-6-11) William Howard Taft was president **and life expectancy was 47.** An article in the NY Times reported food prices had increased 25% between 1911 and 1912: A dozen eggs: .30 to .40, 2 lbs of sugar: .12 to .14 bread stayed the same at .08 per loaf.

He attended Titusville Primary in a school that was located where the present City Hall now stands. He graduated from Titusville High School in 1930, which was three years after the original high school was built. There were 19 students in his graduating class.

He broke his arm badly when he was 13 and there was no hospital in Titusville. The only Dr. had no x-ray, they took him to the local dentist, stuck his elbow up under the x-ray and started taking many, many 1 inch images. Then these were put together to see how bad the break was.

Guy played football on the first team ever to play at Titusville High. He said he had never seen a football game. When a substitute came in, they had to exchange pads. They played Daytona Beach in that first game and lost 50 to 0.

He was married in 1932 to Lois Taylor. To buy the engagement ring, they saved by not going to movies in Daytona Beach and put the money in a little box. Instead, they stayed home and listened to the radio. The engagement ring was ordered from Montgomery Ward and they paid \$69.95. The wedding ring cost \$9.95. **(Not \$995.00)** He paid \$15.00 for his first car.

Here are some prices in 1932: New car: \$610, New house: \$6515, Gallon of gas: .10, gallon of milk .43, Dow Jones avg. 65 Life expectancy: 59.7 years.

When they got married, Guy had \$30.00 in his pocket and no job.

His first job after marriage was working in the citrus groves in Shiloh, Florida. This was a small community just north of Hanover Canal. His father-in-law owned the groves and Guy earned 10 cents an hour or \$5.50 a week, if it didn't rain! NASA later bought up this community when they were constructing the Kennedy Space Center.

Guy next moved to New Smyrna Beach and began working for the local Gulf Oil Distributor driving a delivery truck. After a while, he moved back to Titusville in a house that had no running water inside and the bathroom was an outhouse.

In 1941 he leased and then purchased a Gulf Service Station that was then located just north of where City Hall now stands. He worked at this station for 35 years and retired in 1976.

In 1947, He was approached by some City leaders, to run for city council. The population at this time was about 1100 as he recalled. Guy said he wasn't interested but when the leaders said Guy wouldn't have to do any campaigning or spend any money, he agreed. He was elected to a two year term and then re-elected to another term. He was elected Mayor during his second term.

He said the only memorable action he can remember during the council years was they changed the type of city government from Mayor to City Council.

There were five council members and he said he cannot recall anyone attended the meetings except the council members.

And his salary for being a councilman was \$5.00 per month.

At the time, the Mayor was also the City Judge.

During his tenure as City Judge, he can't remember anyone coming before him except an occasional drunk.

Some of the fines for law-breakers back then were:

1. \$5.00 for spitting on the sidewalk
2. \$5.00 for cursing in public

3. \$15.00 for lighting a gas lantern in the city limits. Downtown Titusville burned to the ground in the late 1800's because of this.

About this time he purchased some beach property south of Playalinda. 100 feet on the ocean and 400 feet deep for \$10.00 a foot or \$1,000!

Guy became a Christian in 1938 while attending church in New Smyrna Beach. He started teaching Sunday School in 1942 at the original First Baptist Church in Titusville which was located on Palm Street behind the present First Baptist Church in downtown Titusville. The property is now a parking lot. **And this will be his 69th year of teaching Sunday School!**

He became a deacon in 1945 and the original church moved to the new brick First Baptist Church in the early 1950's.

Guy was on the pulpit committee that called Peter Lord to be their Pastor.

When the membership started to outgrow the new brick church, Guy was on the building committee that purchased the land and built the present Park Ave. Baptist Church.

Guy was in the first group of Elders to be called at Park Ave. and faithfully served until Retiring in 1999.

Guy has a website: **guyboyd.org** which has audio of his teaching all the books of the Bible.

Even though he is retired and 100 years old, he still gets up at 5 AM every day and has a quiet time that lasts for two hours.

I think one of the scriptures that best describe Guy is Prov. 10:27, **“The reverent and worshipful fear of the Lord prolongs one's days.”**

