



# **FLOYD'S VOICE**

**VOLUME 1 (September 2021 - 12 Days)**

**Sunday, September 19, 2021 - Thursday, September 30, 2021**

## **SUNDAY, SEPT. 19, 2021**

On Tuesday, Sept. 21, it will be one year since Floyd took his “wheels up” on his final journey to the world beyond ours. During the past year, I have reflected deeply on how Floyd’s life made a difference in the world. Floyd and I would sometimes debate whether one person can really make a difference. I would always passionately believe every one of us can make a difference. Floyd, surprisingly, was more reserved and skeptical in taking the other point of view. (You know how he loved to debate.) Floyd never fully realized how he was making a difference in small ways with his CHOICE of VOICE in every day of his Global update!

In honor of Floyd’s heavenly anniversary, his Global Update is again rising like a Phoenix to follow in the SPIRIT of FLOYD’S VOICE. Between today and our Wedding Anniversary on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, I will be Floyd’s secretary, his admin person, the transcriber of FLOYD’S VOICE.

The FLOYD’S VOICE INSIGHTS will not be nearly as extensive as Floyd’s original daily Global Updates that were unbelievably extensive. What is amazing is that those daily communications were reflections of the global knowledge of history and international dynamics that were the clandestine archive in the overwhelming hard drive of Floyd’s mind. He was literally “One for the Books,” something I plan to enjoyably share more as the days go on.

Today is Sunday, and Sunday mornings were always a sacred time for Floyd’s silent Spirit. He would insist on going to early mass, so he could go out for Sunday breakfast (which he loved to do). Then he would spend the rest of Sunday morning feeding his mind and soul. He was passionate about watching Joel Osteen every Sunday at 9:00 on the cable channel, and again at 11:00 on ABC. He was always totally focused on Joel’s pragmatic faith about God’s purpose for our life. In between Joel, Floyd would launch his Sunday Global update, and then dive into the huge Sunday newspaper pile from the Chicago Tribune and the New York Times. He always loved the Tribune travel section (big surprise)! Yet what was amazing was how he also would cherish the Sunday Book Section of the New York Times! Those book reviews would often lead him to mentioning a new book that he wanted to put on his list to read!

FLOYD’S VOICE is going to share INSIGHTS about the books that he read. Also, as books are presented, they will be offered and encouraged for adoption by others. I know it would make Floyd smile to have others adopt and read one of his books. I will be happy to ship any book to you upon request, with a FLOYD’S CHOICE memorial label inside the cover. The label will express a thank you for joining Floyd in making a difference by reading a book that might help the world, one book at a time. Some of you were recipients of books from Floyd, and you know how special he felt about books as gifts.

The Joel Osteen presentation today was absolutely perfect in the dynamic of FLOYD’S VOICE. The title is UNCONDITIONAL TRUST. We have had to integrate a deep sense of unconditional trust in God’s plan with Floyd’s passing. The sudden loss of Floyd was such a quick and traumatic whisking away of his life. For a month, I would visit the cemetery and just keep repeating, “It makes no sense.” Now, a year later, it still does not make sense for me, but within the purpose of Floyd’s life, his legacy does emerge. I have realized that I had been married for over 50 years to a man with the soul of a Templar. Ironically, one of the last books he had read

was “The Templars.” I feel FLOYD'S VOICE remains as the echo of a modern day Templar who would like me to share inspiration with you in these continuing times of global tension.

I know Floyd would enjoy any reflections you may share in thoughts emerging through FLOYD'S VOICE.

Warm regards,  
Kathy Stone

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## FLOYD'S VOICE –

MONDAY, SEPT. 20, 2021

Snowdon was Floyd's special SNOWMAN. (Floyd liked the name Snowman, as it was like the truck driver named Snowman in the Smoky and the Bandit movie!) Snowdon was with Floyd all day on Floyd's last full day with us. There are so many times now that Snowman looks directly at me and barks vigorously, where I honestly feel it is Floyd interrupting to get in his words! This is an example of yesterday when Snowman was sitting on my lap, trying to tell me something!

Last year on, September 20, Floyd's enjoyed his final full day with us. It was his favorite day, Sunday. Early that morning, we went to Starbuck's and he had a favorite plain old fashioned donut and iced tea. We sat in the car due to Covid and he talked about his last trips that were very special. He was a lover of WW2 history, and reflected on his history filled travels in Berlin, Poland, and Normandy for the 75th D-Day anniversary. That was his special last trip to Europe with with son, James. Like always on Sunday, we came home, and Floyd loyally watched Joel Osteen and read Sunday newspapers for several hours. He sent out his online Global Update that he issued every day, with this focus that day on a great article about Leadership, something he cherished and lived. He had a relaxing afternoon sitting on our deck looking out at the pond. He enjoyed quality time with his beloved Snowman, plus was amused with hanging on to puppy Enzo, who wiggled on his lap while I took Snowman for a walk.

Any of you who knew Floyd were aware that his favorite food was a good ole-fashioned hamburger with cheddar cheese and “ketchup only.” I had picked up a great hamburger carry out meal from Cooper's Hawk restaurant that evening, as with Covid we were limited and eating at home. Floyd's favorite time was Sunday night when he would enthusiastically chat with our son, James, in Houston. He adored our son and regular Sunday night conversations would usually last almost an hour. He loved gabbing about sports, racing, cars, travel, stock market, and business, always vigorously chuckling about each incident. After that phone conversation, I recall Floyd sitting back in his big blue leather chair, with a big smile on his face, savoring our son's latest conversation.

When we talk about purpose in life, there is no doubt that, despite many achievements, Floyd's felt his cherished lifelong accomplishment was being a loving father and husband. His last Sunday was truly spent doing things in the manner of his theme song, “My Way!” Again, those who really knew him saw his genuine yet forceful manner in negotiating things “My Way.” He was a master negotiator par excellence, and would always say, “You have to be willing to walk away,” rather than give in.

I was downstairs keeping Snowman and our new puppy Enzo quiet that last night. At around midnight, I strangely noted that Snowman's ears started to twitch. Snowman had developed a strange ear twitch problem where a couple of times a year the twitch would suddenly appear and last for about six weeks. We even had an at-home vet treat him with acupuncture, yet never diagnosed the cause. So it was very strange that Snowman's ear twitching started for no reason

that night. The following day Snowman, at the time Floyd died, was standing at Floyd's feet, watching silently as his Dad suddenly left us to cross the Rainbow Bridge.

Snowman's ear twitching lasted through Floyd's passing and was not resolved until at least a month after he passed. I have the strange suspicion that Snowman had sensed that night that his Dad was embarking on the final lap to the Rainbow Bridge. They say dogs can predict amazing things through their sense of smell and hearing. This year, on the eve of September 11, 2021, Snowman's ears suddenly began twitching again, and they still are twitching right now. I feel Snowman had sensed reminders of the loss of 9/11 that so deeply affected Floyd. As I am writing this narrative, we are just a day away from the anniversary of Floyd's passing. Snowman's ears are now twitching constantly! Sometimes I wonder if Floyd is loudly talking to Snowman with Floyd's Spirit Voice!!!

You are always with me, Floyd!  
Love, Kathy, Snowman, and Enzo

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## FLOYD'S VOICE - TUESDAY September 21, 2021

IN REMEMBRANCE: SEPTEMBER 21, 2020 –

**"This will be the day that I die."**



**FLOYD**

Today is the one year anniversary of Floyd's passing. We had been married in 1966, and our life together was mirrored in the lyrics of "American Pie." It is ironic that Floyd's favorite song for years had been the iconic "American Pie." The meaning in the legendary lyrics is an amazing piece of history!

An Angel friend who knew Floyd well shares my awareness of signs from the afterlife. She texted me this morning that she had just heard the song "American Pie" appear to her mystically on three different radio channels within a short period of time. She knew of Floyd's deep connection with that song, and felt it must be a message from him to me! YES! I am certain that "American Pie" is what Floyd would want me to post! It is his way to honor his life on the day he left us for his new Angel journey to join Brighton across the Rainbow Bridge!

Floyd's Voice was extremely patriotic, and he was a true global citizen and contemporary Templar. He was feeling heartbroken with the state of the world in the midst of Covid. Plus he sadly and helplessly was witnessing the crumbling of his "God Bless America" spirit in our country. A year ago on this day, Floyd said "Bye, bye, American Pie.....This will be the day that I die."

NOTE: It is ironic that Floyd passed on September 21st, which is the Autumnal Equinox, the point of equal days and nights. That is only fitting, as Floyd was always the diplomat, balancing alternative points of view, holding on with his Libra Spirit to the scales of justice. He prided himself in respectful debate, integrity in courageous negotiation, and always honoring a global perspective.

On this day of Equinox, I pray for Floyd's Voice to whisper to the world reminders of the grace to maintain balance. Yet, we must unfortunately recognize that from this day forward until late in

**December, our days will shorten and our life will be getting darker. We will be feeling more strongly a craving and praying for some B-RIGHT-ON LIGHT!!**

**I love you, my Crusader Knight, forever!!! Keep sharing "FLOYD's VOICE" through your Spirit! I have FAITH you can help keep your BRIGHT LIGHT alive in our world!**

**Kathy, Snowdon and Enzo**

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Links to American Pie - Complete song, Lyrics, and Meaning of Lyrics

[Don McLean - American Pie Lyrics | AZLyrics.com](#)

[Home Free – American Pie Lyrics | Genius Lyrics](#)

[What do American Pie's lyrics mean? - BBC News](#)

["American Pie" Lyrics - What Do They Mean? \(whrc-wi.org\)](#)

[The Tragic Story Behind Don McLean's American Pie \(grunge.com\)](#)

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BOOKS FROM FLOYD'S COLLECTION - AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION

## **FLOYD'S VOICE - WEDNESDAY - SEPTEMBER 22, 2021**

### **“The South Side of Chicago**

Floyd was a tried and true inner city Chicago boy from the South Side. He was born on Friday, October 13, 1945, those numbers to be significant in his archetype. 1945 was the year of the end of World War II, and his generation would be referred to as war babies or the threshold year of the famous “Baby Boomer” generation. Later Floyd’s deep love of history revealed that Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, was a highly significant 12<sup>th</sup> century benchmark date in the history of the Templars of the Crusades.

Floyd was born into a typical inner city culture of big old apartment buildings, crowded Chicago Public Schools, and the lower class urban tensions of racial division and safety concerns for the reality of dangerous Chicago neighborhoods. His father was an over-the-road truck driver who would be on the road and gone for days. Mothers in those days always stayed home with the children and were given the label of housewife. While Floyd was still a little boy, he became the big brother of a sister who was born prematurely. As a result of limited knowledge in those days, his 5 pound baby sister was given too much oxygen in the incubator, and it burned out the retina in her eyes. His sister’s vision was severely compromised and she was legally blind her whole life. Their family life and funds were stressed with educating a blind little girl who, through special services for the Blind, learned to read Braille and get around on her own with a white cane.

Floyd was always a simple guy, and it was nurtured by the limited resources of his home. His parents always had limited means, and moved from one apartment to another every couple of years. He changed elementary schools a number of times. His Mom experienced multiple illnesses. He would often recall how once he was dropped off to stay with a teacher for several weeks while his Mom was in the hospital. They always ate plain, inexpensive food at home. Hamburgers fried in a skillet were a mainstay, and hamburgers became his lifelong favorite food. Fried chicken was a family delicacy and once a year the family would go out for a special dinner at Mickelbury’s Log Cabin Restaurant in the famous Beverly area of Southside Chicago.

His whole life, Floyd cherished his many large metal trucks, and to this day his truck collection is on display in his office area of our basement. He also loved his toy soldiers and Lincoln Logs, and he always loved toys. His parents were never able to buy him a bike, so his prized vehicle was a large red wagon, that I now use to pull heavy groceries from the car to the house. He was also a little boy who wore his cowboy holster and guns, plus cowboy hat. Every Christmas he would watch "A Christmas Story" movie over and over. Floyd's life was so much like Ralphie in the movie, and as his little boy pictures ironically look a lot like Ralphie.

Floyd had a tenacious motivation to SAVE his whole life. Being from a poor family, he often recalled walking to school with holes in his shoes. As an adult, he would never get a new pair of shoes until his current pair was falling apart. He would walk into a shoe store with his shoes falling apart, try on a new pair, and leave them on. He would then take the shoe laces out his old shoes to keep as spares, and leave the old shoes with the salesman. He prided himself in early morning delivering newspapers, plus shoveling snow, and saving all the money he would make in a bank account he opened at Drovers Bank as a boy. Once he saved money, he would never want to spend it, and his whole life he had a hard time spending his hard-earned money he had saved.

Floyd was a tall and strong twelve year old, and his Dad got him an under-age job at the trucking terminal. He would go to school during the day, then take the bus to the terminal, and load trucks from 4 pm until 11, when he would then take the bus to get home very late. Somehow he would fit in homework when he could. What was amazing was how he loved to read, and developed an amazing skill on his own of speed reading at an early age. He also loved to play sandlot football and pick-up softball games. He had asthma his whole life, and as a kid, at times needed oxygen. He visited an allergist his whole life to get his allergy shots. His asthma rejected him from any sports team qualification, as well as made him draft exempt.

Floyd's childhood was early training to work for everything, and it also made him believe that if he worked hard enough, he could achieve anything he wanted. As an inner city Southside Chicago kid, he grew up with respect for all classes and races of people. Throughout his life, he never lost his enjoyment of happily chatting with truck drivers, workmen, and waitresses. His childhood was the fertile ground to grow the down-to-earth, genuine guy who was happy with simple things. Yet, he was unaware of an amazing intelligence that he saw as just his norm. Floyd was just another story of the famous American dream. His family "survived" without handouts. It gave Floyd the conviction to not view others as limited by expectations based on social stereotypes of limited potential. He rose above what would have been his boyhood expectations, and worked hard with a belief in "Exceeds Expectations," a phrase he would frequently use during his whole life.

With Warm and Loving Memories,  
Kathy Stone

NOTE: Two Books available for Adoption. Email request. I will pay shipping.

1. Chicago From the Air
2. The South Side



## FLOYD'S VOICE

THURSDAY - SEPTEMBER 23, 2021

### World War II

According to Generation Theory, the Silent Generation includes those born 1925-1942, and the Boomer Generation those born 1943-1960. Floyd was born in 1945, the same year as the end of World War II. D-Day was June 5, 1944, on May 8, 1945 Peace was declared in Europe, and on August 15, 1945 Japan surrendered. Floyd was born just 2 months later, in October. Needless to say, the years when Floyd was a boy were strongly influenced by stories of World War II. It was in the early days of television at that time when many programs and films honored the intense conflict and heroism of World War II troops both in Europe and Asia. Toy Army soldiers were common toys for little boys.

Throughout Floyd's life, he had a deep interest in World War II. As an adult, his passion for books led to a growing personal World War II library. That interest also was shared with his son, and James has developed a tremendous expertise and personal experience in World War II history in Europe. In 2019, James made a special arrangement for our family to spend an entire week in a town very near Omaha Beach. We spent 7 days participating in the extensive activities celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day on June 6, 2019. Ironically, that once-in-a-lifetime trip for our whole family was also Floyd's last trip to Europe. He honored the souls of the heroes at Omaha Beach and the American Cemetery, and felt the deep Spirit of American Patriotism that was do much a part of Floyd's soul. It was truly a profound finale to Floyd's 50 years of international travel that began in 1970, where we visited Berlin when it was still divided by the Berlin Wall.

In our home, we have an entire bookcase filled with a wealth of books about World War II. Floyd was always adding more books to the collection as he continued to go deeper into World War II history. In 2015, he spent a week in Berlin, and savored visiting the extensive museums. In 2018, he travelled by himself on an extensive trip to Poland, visiting Warsaw and Krakow. In his European travels, he made visits to the concentration camps of Dachau, Treblinka, and Auschwitz. Those intense historical visits left an indelible memory with Floyd, and he did significant reading in trying to integrate with deep sorrow the horrible reality of the Holocaust. After Floyd passed, we found a note in our desk drawer from Floyd listing the book "Poland 1939" as a book he wanted for his birthday, which was 3 weeks later. The book stands prominently in this photo, and I am reading the book for Floyd in honor of his request. The more he learned about the perils of Poland in World War II, the more deeply became his interest, and his visit to Poland was especially profound. In fact, the day before he passed, he was reflecting on the life-altering experience of walking through Auschwitz.

Floyd's library legacy of World War II books will continue to remain a prominent part of our home, and will continue to be used and referred to. If any of you have a strong interest in World War II history, be sure to email us. James and I will genuine enjoy giving you more information and recommend book titles. James has also visited an amazing number of World War II sites throughout Europe. He can talk for hours about the sites and museums, and he will gladly provide information on how you might integrate some World War II sites into a European trip. It is a way to "Never Forget."

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## **FLOYD'S VOICE - FRIDAY - SEPTEMBER 24, 2021**

### **The Cold War Begins - (1950s – late 1980s)**

According to Generation Theory, the happenings in the history of the country and the world have a major impact on childhood. In 1948 the State of Israel was declared, and began an lifelong interest in Israel. In 1949 NATO was formed, and in 1950 the UN faced its first major challenge when war broke out in Korea. In 1945, the Korean peninsula was taken from the Japanese. The northern half was then controlled by the USSR, and the southern half by the USA. In 1950 Communist forces from North Korea invaded South Korea. Troops from 16 member nations were sent to support South Korea, while China helped the North Koreans. The Korean War lasted for three years and killed four million people.

During 1947-48, the Eastern European states became communist and pro-Soviet. In 1948-49 the Berlin airlift stopped with USSR taking over Berlin. Also in 1949 the USSR exploded its first atomic bomb and an arms race began. Stalin died in 1953 and Nikita Khrushchev came to power. In 1949 the Chinese Communist Party under Mao Zedong took power, and in 1950 China invaded Tibet. In 1953, the first Five-Year Plan began, and the Great Leap Forward started in 1958. Asia's economic growth began in the 1950s in Japan, and spread to Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore, and Malaysia. In 1954, Vietnamese communists defeated the French at Dien Bien Phu.

It is significant that one book Floyd often referred to was the book "Hell In A Very Small Place - The Siege of Dien Ben Phu." According to the author, Bernard B. Fall, "There have been few single battles which have changed the fate of the world, or at least the fate of some once-mighty empire. France went into this campaign with her colonial empire intact, but came away defeated in Asia, setting the stage eight years later to be stripped of her empire and largely confined to the European continent." The effect for the West was devastating and a major factor for the holders of power in Communist North Viet-Nam. It was the only guerrilla force to have defeated a major power on the battlefield. The book was published in 1966, and became one of the earliest prized possessions of Floyd's hard cover book collection. This 50 year old book has aged gracefully, and continues to be one of the cherished treasures that belonged to Floyd. I still recall how frequently he would refer to Dien Bien Phu in his military discussions related to Viet-Nam and the evolving global dynamics in Asia. It was obviously an important book for Floyd, and contributed to his tremendous knowledge of foundational aspects in the development of Asia.

In the USA, F. D. Roosevelt was president from 1941, and upon his unexpected death before the end of the war, Truman became President and authorized the atomic bomb attack on Hiroshima to end the war with Japan in August, 1945. Truman was president from 1945 until 1952. 1950 was the start of the McCarthy era in the U.S. In 1953. The World War II hero, General Dwight D. Eisenhower, became president for two terms from 1953 to 1961. It was in the context of 1945 to 1959 that Floyd's childhood through age 15 was affected by the culmination of World War II, the global dynamics of the Cold War, the Korean War, and the more peaceful years of the Eisenhower years. Those global events were the foundation for Floyd's intense interest in World War II and Global political dynamics. His book collection includes a number of books that go beyond World War II into the political power dynamics in the USSR and Asia.

By 1953, the Korean War had ended, and Dwight D. Eisenhower became president. Floyd was 8 years old, and began to enjoy the typical school-age years of the Boomer generation of the 1950's. During Boomer youth, there were sweeping advances against childhood illnesses, like polio, and fluoridating the water to protect teeth. Boom children enjoyed nurturing in very child-focused households, communities, and scout programs. Moms turned to Benjamin Spock for advice, and invested maternal time in grade-school Boomers. A child's life did indeed match television sit-coms like Happy Days and Father Knows Best, as well as the Mickey Mouse Club. Throughout his life, Floyd would be fixated at Christmastime to watching the movie, "A

Christmas Story," as it mirrored his own home life, and he had always wanted a BB gun. Floyd was also very attracted to cowboy TV shows and movies. He would often mention the Lone Ranger, Hopalong Cassidy, and Lash LaRue. He also used his out of school time to earn money. Like many kids, he delivered newspapers and earned money shoveling snow in the Chicago winters. Play was more related to movement, and Floyd would get together for pick-up baseball games, and impromptu street games. Comic books and collecting baseball cards were of high interest and became a foundation for Floyd's natural tendency to collect "stuff." He prided himself in his collection of trucks and Army soldiers, and built model airplanes. Plus Floyd loved to collect money, and coins were almost an addiction for him. Throughout his life he had multiple jars and banks, and would drop coins in them every day. He would actually like going through the tollway both to give them a dollar bill and get coins for change. You cannot believe the amount of money he had saved in quarters, and we still have one large aluminum keg that is a cherished treasure too heavy to move!

You can see from Floyd's early childhood how he became fascinated with global issues. Notice the clues? Also, in delivering newspapers, Floyd became fixated on reading at least one newspaper each day, and always paying attention to the financial section, or the Wall Street Journal. He read the newspaper every morning of his life! We all know how passionate he was about planes! We are still getting his subscription to Air and Space magazine. By age 12 he was working on the docks, and deeply fixated and earning and saving money. He also prided himself in his strength to lift heavy items into trailer trucks. His Eisenhower years childhood experience was a foundation for his genuine, friendly attitude and strong Patriotism. All this was a prelude to his teen years as one of the multitude of Boomer teen-agers of the 1960's.

With fond remembrances and love,  
Kathy

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## FLOYD'S VOICE - SATURDAY - SEPTEMBER 25, 2021

### Vince Lombardi and the Green Bay Packers

Floyd's father's family was from Baraboo, Wisconsin, and they would make trips to visit Baraboo each summer. As a consequence, his family was Green Bay Packer football fans, even though Floyd grew up in Chicago Bear country. His loyalty to Green Bay began as a boy, and became stronger with the addition of Packer Head Coach Vince Lombardi in 1959. Vince Lombardi (1913-1970) was the winningest coach in football history and considered by many to be the greatest coach in football history. The Packers lost the 1960 NFL Championship, however they would go on to win five championships in 7 years under Lombardi, including 3 straight between 1965 and 1967, and two Super Bowl championships. The NFL Super Bowl trophy was named in his honor.

One especially vintage book in Floyd's collection is "Run To Daylight!" written by Vince Lombardi in 1963. That book is now almost 60 years old! (Price \$6.95) The book describes seven days in the life of Vince Lombardi, as he shapes up his team from Monday to Saturday for a crucial game on Sunday. Another 54 year old book in the collection is "Quarterbacking" written by Bart Starr in 1967 (\$7.95). One of Floyd's greatest heroes was Bart Starr, and one of his treasures in our living room is an autographed picture of Bark Starr.

Floyd's has a plaque with speech by Vince Lombardi, "What It takes to be No. 1." It begins, "You've got to pay the price. Winning is not a sometime thing, it's an all-time thing. It goes on to say, "You don't do things right once in a while, you do them right all the time." The speech ends: "I believe in God, and I believe in human decency. But I firmly believe that any man's finest hour – his greatest fulfillment to all he holds dear – is that moment when he has worked his heart



out in a good cause and lies exhausted on the field of battle – victorious. Floyd was definitely Number 1!

These Green Bay Packer books are each up for adoption by a Packer fan:

- “Vince – A Personal Biography of Vince Lombardi” by Michael O’Brien 1987 457 Pages
- “The Packers 75 Seasons of Memories & Mystique in Green Bay” by Steve Cameron 1993 240 Pg.
- “When Pride Still Mattered – A Life of Vince Lombardi” by David Maraniss c. 1999 541 Pages
- “What It Takes to be #1 – Vince Lombardi on Leadership” – Vince Lombardi, Jr. c. 2001 278 Pages

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## FLOYD'S VOICE - SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

### SUNDAY SPEAKERS

Floyd always enjoyed listening to speakers with messages of wisdom in pragmatic context that provided down-to-earth application of the Golden Rule. He would be impatient with more traditional church sermons that were too long and dogmatic. He genuinely related to the messages that aligned with his high level ethics and beliefs in the weekly presentations of Joel Osteen. There would always be a thematic message that would affirm God’s love and belief in everyone’s destiny and highest potential. Joel’s sermons are extremely uplifting with motivation, which was a key concept in Floyd’s mindset from an early age. It is amazing how the Joel Osteen sermons provide such encouragement based on God’s destiny for each of us, yet they do not overburden the listener with a heavy dose of religion. The impeccable speaking ability demonstrated by Joel Osteen is also extremely polished but delivered without notes. Effective public speaking is truly a gift that Floyd highly admired, and he tried to model being a strong personable speaker in all his presentations.

Another speaker that Floyd highly admired was Rick Warren. In fact, he would often refer to Rick Warren’s book *The Purpose Driven Life – What on Earth Am I Here for?* This was a book Floyd would often purchase as a gift for others. It mirrored the impressive quality that Floyd had in self-reflection on his own purpose in life. The Rick Warren book is divided into 40 chapters as a structure for the reader to consider one chapter a day for 40 days. These are the last 4 Chapters”

- Chapter 37 Sharing Your Life Message
- Chapter 38 Becoming A World-Class Christian
- Chapter 39 Balancing Your Life
- Chapter 40 Living with Purpose

Floyd’s Global Update was a manifestation of his life purpose and definitely fulfilled the Chapter 38 goal of Becoming A World-Class Christian. Floyd traveled the world for 50 years and became a positive representative of the best in American spirit. Everywhere he went he was gracious, cordial, respectful, and genuinely interested in other cultures and their history. In his compassionate caring about the tragedies of war and the holocaust, he carried a memorial spirit for all of us. In reviewing Rick Warren’s book, I was comforted by the reminder of how well Floyd had lived a purpose-driven world-class life, and I was privileged to watch his spirit unfold day by day.

With prayers that Floyd continues to inspire and motivate us!  
Forever Love, Kathy

**Books Available for Adoption:**

**The Purpose Driven Life - What on Earth Am I Here For? By Rick Warren c. 2002 - 333 Pg.**  
**Become a Better You - 7 Keys to Improving Your Life Every Day By Joel Osteen c. 2007 -**

**380 Pg.**

**It's Your Time - Activate Your Faith, Achieve Your Dreams, and Increase God's Favor**  
**By Joel Osteen c. 2009 - 304 Pg.**

**I Declare - 31 Promises to Speak Over Your Life by Joel Osteen c. 2012 - 171 Pg.**

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**FLOYD'S VOICE -**  
**MONDAY - SEPTEMBER 27, 2021**

**P.M.A. – POSITIVE MENTAL ATTITUDE**

In chronological progression, we are now flowing into the famous 1960's. From Floyd's perspective, it was also a time of transition from a 15 year old teenager in 1960 to a married man in 1966, and a global adventurer in 1970. Floyd had transitioned from dock worker to office staff at his father's trucking company, Blue-Arrow Douglas Freightways. His foundation for expertise in transportation was formed literally from the invaluable experience of loading trucks and seeing trucking from the inside out. When it came to truck trailer equipment, scheduling, LTL, driving lift trucks, and parking semi-trailers, he lived it all! Floyd's motivation to advance in transportation was fueled by a truly impatient drive to succeed in the business world. By the end of the 1960's, he was working in downtown Chicago for an international freight forwarder, and getting his first taste of international transportation that would create an unquenchable appetite his whole life.

It was during the 1960's period of being newly married and determined to earn as much money as possible, that Floyd again fueled his evolving story with books. There were four books that Floyd read that made a significant impact in his life during this period of his early twenty's:

*Think and Grow Rich* by Napoleon Hill - c. 1967 (1st Pub. 1937) 298 Pg.

*Success Through A Positive Mental Attitude* by Napoleon Hill & W. Clement Stone c. 1960 254 Pg.

*The Success System That Never Fails* by W. Clement Stone c. 1962 253. Pages

*Succeed and Grow Rich Through Persuasion* by Napoleon Hill & E. Harold Keown c. 1970 256 Pg.

It was, by far, the book *Success Through a Positive Mental Attitude* that made a huge impact on Floyd's entire life! He read it thoroughly when we were first married, and immediately began to tenaciously apply the principles to his life. I recall him using the phrase "Positive Mental Attitude" and "PMA" all the time. "Positive" became a word that would infiltrate his conversations throughout his life. He was known to always provide advice and encouragement to others based on the concept of a "Positive Mental Attitude." It also was ironic that this highly influential book had the author with the same last name as Floyd.

Floyd became such a proponent of W. Clement Stone and Napoleon Hill that he would refer to their names all the time. He was especially impressed with the life of Chicago born W. Clement Stone. In fact, W. Clement Stone was truly a significant role model. W. Clement Stone began his selling career as a newsboy in his home city of Chicago. At the age of 16, W. Clement Stone sold his first insurance policy. By the time he was 20, he had established his own agency, and then his own national sales organization. He was President of Combined Insurance Company of America, and three other insurance companies and editor of "Success Unlimited" magazine. He also became President of Chicago Boys Clubs

I remember distinctly how Floyd composed a lengthy letter to W. Clement Stone, telling him how much he valued PMA and the Success System, and was such a fan of W. Clement Stone. Floyd was thrilled when he actually received a response from W. Clement Stone, including autographed copies of his two books! Floyd was so impressed to have been acknowledged by such an important and wealthy person that it was truly a meaningful experience in the foundation of his professional business career.

The book *Success Through A Positive Mental Attitude* is truly a priceless treasure for me and James. Published in 1960, the book is 61 years old, and obviously well read and used many times. The real treasure is in the back of the book. There is a Success Quotient Analysis Questionnaire with 75 items to either be checked "Yes" or "No." Floyd had answered with an X each item of the questionnaire. The items were personal reflections on Floyd's behaviors and thinking at that time. With the survey completed by Floyd at about the age of 23, it gives invaluable insight into Floyd's attitude and motivation as a young man. The perfect score on the Analysis was 300 Points. Floyd had a score of 284, which is true insight, and revealed his level of special strength in his career potential.

I feel thrilled to be able to share with others the Positive Mental Attitude guy that I married at the age of 20, when he had just turned 21 a week before our wedding. We truly launched our lives together as a very young team, starting out with nothing, and putting ourselves through college while married and both working at the same time. I was Floyd's teammate for close to his whole life, and it is profoundly meaningful for me to share his life story, as he and I together worked together every step of our lives to evolve.

I am lost without my teammate and treasure every moment we shared in our life journey.  
Forever Love,  
Kathy

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## **FLOYD'S VOICE - TUESDAY - SEPTEMBER 28, 2021**

### **1960'S - MUSCLE CARS**

Floyd entered the 1960's at age 15, just itching for his driver's permit to put the pedal to the metal. As a kid, his Dad had taken him to local stock car races at Santa Fe Speedway or Raceway Park, and with his Dad being a truck driver, wheels were part of the family DNA. Since Floyd had already been working on the docks a few years, he had been ahead of most teens in saving money to buy a car. His first purchase was to buy the used dull green 4 door Ford Fairlane from his Dad. It was quite a status symbol that he was one of the first kids in school to be driving around in his own car. That was big time stuff. Also, his family always bought Ford automobiles, so Floyd early on became a Ford guy, and owned a Ford for the majority of his life, especially the Mustang!

After graduating from high school in January, 1964, Floyd worked his tail off on the docks full-time,. Later that year he was able to save enough money to buy a new white 1964 Ford Galaxie at the age of 19. That same year he had met Kathy, and he was rather amused that she was driving her Dad's used 1958 PINK CADILLAC convertible! Set the stage for a lifelong romance on wheels! Like most guys in the 1960's, cars were big time stuff. Plus the cars on the road during that decade were marvelous machines of muscle! To this day, those muscle cars of the 1960's are prized collector's items. Throughout the very last weeks of his life, Floyd would continue to spend hours watching Mechum or Barrett Jackson Auto Auctions for hours, and exclaiming the beauty of those gleaming muscle machines, and which one he would dream of buying.

Floyd started collecting models of racing cars, and there is a great car collection that James is inheriting as a true treasure of his Dad's passion for cars. Now (big surprise) there is an equally awesome collection of car and race driver BOOKS! The photo shows the large bookcase that has his multitude of car and racing books, as well as some of his collection of cars. Prominent in the picture is the large model of the Plymouth Super Bird, and the Mercury Cyclone, two of Floyd's favorite cars. Also, there is in the middle of the bookcase, a small photo of Floyd's prized 1976 Trans Am. More about cars and racing will be covered during the next decade of the 1970's, since Floyd followed cars and racing during every decade of his life. Floyd's gift of gab would go into overdrive whenever he would expound on the latest NASCAR news and details of the latest auto races each weekend. He could have been an announcer!

Floyd's love for cars certainly mirrored his personality. He liked anything BIG, anything with muscle, speed, and artistic class. He was a truly skillful driver. While working on the docks, he had learned to drive stick shift while spotting trailers, and was a master at gear changes, which became obvious in the way he handled the Trans Am. He also was impatient, and would often act like it was a personal insult when a stoplight would change at an intersection, and he'd be forced to wait. If you knew Floyd, you know he was time-oriented, and it was a skill that made him so successful in transportation. Being JIT (Just in Time) was so important to Floyd that he would always be early! His impatience also showed in the way he drove like he was getting ready to draft the guy in front of him on the road. He could not stand to have Kathy drive with Floyd in the passenger seat. What Kathy called the Rules of the Road distance of "one car length for every 10 miles per hour" drove him nuts!

Floyd would sometimes reveal his harrowing story of aggressively driving on the tollway to work in the Trans Am. It was icy on an interchange ramp, and the T/A went into a spin off the ground and to the side of the shoulder. Floyd shifted down in the spin and road all the way around in the complete 360 degree spin. Then he rapidly shifted back into high gear and took right off with no sweat, and no damage. He was that skillful of a driver! He had often expressed dreams of being a race driver but his work ethic, value of money, and love of family had higher priority. Floyd liked to get going and not stay put. Plus he had to be in control and in charge of putting things into gear and putting his foot on the accelerator. He couldn't stand to wait! I wonder sometimes if that same impatience Floyd had with our trapped existence under Covid had made him so frustrated with waiting. With his global wisdom, he knew so much more, and intuitively saw things would not be returning to the old normal soon, or perhaps never...and he was spot on. Could his sudden Angel exit from this upside down Covid world have been guided by grace to get him back in gear on the road to the heavenly phase of his eternal journey? God only knows! (Literally....)

For over 50 years, I was Floyd's co-captain in the passenger seat. Together we were like a team of race drivers in the 24 hours of Le Mans, taking turns at the wheel of life and moving along at high speed acceleration! I hope there are muscle cars in heaven for Floyd, and enough to keep him moving! I often dry to imagine what he discovered as he suddenly accelerated along the heavenly highway! He certainly put the pedal to the metal quickly, leaving us in the dust of loss of our team captain. God bless him!!!!

Floyd, you won the checkered flag of life!  
Love, Kathy

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## **FLOYD'S VOICE**

**WEDNESDAY - SEPTEMBER 29, 2021**

### **1960'S – VIETNAM WAR**

According to Generation Theory, the period of time that is the teen years of a generation tends to establish a general characteristic of that generation. The Vietnam War began in June, 1954 after the defeat in Dien Bien Phu. In June, 1954, the Geneva accords divided Vietnam in two at the 17<sup>th</sup> parallel. The Cuban Missile Crisis in October, 1962 was an additional wake-up call as to the nuclear threat of the Cold War. By November 2, 1963, the war had escalated, and there were 16,000 U.S. military personnel in Vietnam and 200 had been killed.

On November 22, 1963 President John F. Kennedy was assassinated. Everyone remembered where they were when they heard of the death of President Kennedy. It was a crystalizing moment for the Boomer Generation. Floyd was in his final semester of high school, and teen-age boys had already been through draft registration. There was a pervasive concern about being drafted after high school graduation. The threat of young men going to Vietnam was a major concern in the 1960's and was a defining factor in the history of the Boomer generation. There was a general anxiety and uncertainty across parents and students regarding transitioning into jobs, college, or marriage. Take a look at the decade of the 1960's, and see how it was affected by the Vietnam War. For those who were born in the 1950's, the events below would have been the context for their early childhood through middle school-age years:

March 13 – May 7, 1954 – Battle of Dien Bien Phu

May 9, 1960 - FDA approves first birth control pill

November 1960 - Election of President John F. Kennedy

1961 – Peace Corps Established by President Kennedy

October 16-28, 1962 - Cuban Missile Crisis

August 28, 1963 - March on Washington - Martin Luther King "I Have a Dream" speech.

By November 2, 1963 - Approx. 16,000 U.S. military personnel are in Vietnam, and 200 have been killed.

November 22, 1963 – President John F. Kennedy Assassinated in Dallas

November 22, 1963 – Lyndon B. Johnson sworn in as President

1964 - Civil Right Act passed.

1965 - Voting Rights Act passed.

August 5, 1964 - North Vietnamese torpedo boats attacked U.S. destroyers in the Gulf of Tonkin.

Congress approves the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, authorizing U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson to “take all necessary measures to repel any armed attack against the forces of the United States.”

November, 1964 – President Lyndon B. Johnson re-elected

1965 – Ground Troops to Vietnam

1966 – 1976 - Chinese Cultural Revolution Begins – Lasting for 10 Years

March 1, 1966 - Study commissioned by U.S. Army chief of Staff recommends more U.S. effort be directed at ensuring the security of South Vietnam's rural population.

January 30, 1968 - Vietnamese New Year holiday of Tet, North Vietnamese and Viet Cong forces launch an attack against five major cities, dozens of military installations, and scores of towns and villages throughout South Vietnam.

March 16, 1968 - Unarmed villagers are killed by U.S. Army troops in My Lai.

April 4, 1968 - Martin Luther King Assassinated

June 5, 1968 - Robert Kennedy Assassinated

November, 1968 – Richard M. Nixon elected President

July, 1969 - Neil Armstrong, commander of Apollo 11, becomes first man to walk on the moon.

November 15, 1969 - Millions of people across the United States take to the streets to protest the continued U.S. involvement in Vietnam.

May 4, 1970 - Members of the Ohio National Guard open fire on unarmed student protesters at Kent State University, killing four and wounding nine. The incident catalyzes the growing antiwar movement. Roughly 335,000 U.S. troops are in Vietnam, and approximately 50,000 have been killed.

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## FLOYD'S VOICE - THURSDAY - SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

### 1960'S – MOVIES AND THE MAN

When investigating more about the life of a person, generation theory helps to set the context in terms of films and music that would have been a strong influence. Floyd loved films about historical heroes, and one of his favorites was the 1962 *Lawrence of Arabia*. He saw this as a story about a truly iconic hero that Floyd admired. Another classic film of the 1960's was the 1964 *Dr. Strangelove or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb*. Peter Sellers played several roles, and the intelligent humor and sarcasm related to the atomic bomb was truly iconic. Floyd had quite a sense of humor and loved to laugh. He always laughed at Peter Sellers as Inspector Cleauseau, and his sidekick Kato.

The 1960's also launched a lifelong passion for Floyd, especially with the movie, *Goldfinger!* Actually, the 1960's were glittered with golden 007 films with James Bond 007 played by Sean Connery! These were the Bond movies of the 1960's: 1. *Dr. No* (1962), 2. *From Russia with Love* (1963), 3. *Goldfinger* (1964). 4. *Thunderball* (1965), 5. *You Only Live Twice* (1967), and 6. *On Her Majesty's Secret Service* (1969). More 007 Bond titles will be shared in later next decades, but 1960 clearly launched a beloved tradition for Floyd and James that they continued to enjoy to this very day..

One of the most significant movies of the 1960's for Floyd was the 1966 film *Gran Prix*. The plot involves behind-the-scenes stories of accident, injury, and romantic relationships involving various Gran Prix drivers during the 1966 Formula I race season in Europe. The actual racing scenes from that 1966 season involve spectacular photography, and memorable soundtrack. The travel from one race track to another across Europe created for Floyd a dream of a goal that would be incredible to do. Floyd watched that film many times over the years, and vicariously over the years he would follow the Gran Prix circuit, and actually attended three Grand Prix races in Monaco, Germany and the U.S.A. Seeing the Monaco Gran Prix in 1970 was a dream come true.

1965 brought another iconic film, *The Sound of Music*, which is to this day such a symbolic archive of the 1960's, and watched many times over the years. Kathy was ditsy, a lot like Maria, and Floyd could identify with the commanding character of Captain Von Trapp. The setting during

World War II was especially significant. We also visited Salzburg, Austria more than once to view the sites where the actual scenes were filmed.

Another 1960's film that Floyd loved will be a surprise. It is the 1966 *A Man and A Woman*. *A Man and a Woman* (French: *Un homme et une femme*) is a 1966 French film, that is quite unusual in having a memorable musical score, yet almost no dialogue in the entire film. The plot is about a French man and woman who meet and develop a budding relationship with many of the scenes travelling in a sports car across the French countryside. The film is notable for its creative photography and soundtrack. With the development of the romance in a sports car, Floyd would often recall this as a special film.

Floyd loved cowboy films! 1966 was a big year for Floyd and he loved *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly*, the first of the famous "spaghetti westerns" starring Clint Eastwood. Floyd identified a lot with the forceful yet silent main character of Clint Eastwood as such an intense rugged cowboy. When it comes to Floyd's absolutely favorite film, few would guess. It was the 1968 classic, *Once Upon A Time in the West*. This very intense western continues to appear on cable TV until present time, and Floyd could not resist watching it every time he could. The music is very intense, with a strange harmonica sound signaling impending dread. The dialogue is purposely limited, and the soundtrack creates a constant sense of suspense and dread. Floyd also identified with the silent character of the tragic little boy who grew up with a mission to find and destroy the evil killer.

Films connect in a special way with certain individuals as they mirror or connect in some way with the person's personal archetype or personal dream. The films Floyd especially liked told a lot about his admiration for heroic strength, tenacity, determination, drive, and love of the cowboy who rides into the town to right the wrongs. Floyd was that quiet crusader, fueled by integrity and high value motivation.

Floyd, you were one of the silent crusaders, and everyday 007 the world desperately needs. I hope you keep guiding grace for good from your heavenly guidepost!

Love, Kathy