Cynthia Boyd

VALLEY FORGE HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

MAY 26, 2019

Cynthia has lived her life with the following basic beliefs:

1.  Do what is right - what you think is right based on the Bible.

2.  No matter how much you would like, not everyone is going to like you.

3.  Life is fool of earthquakes; some shake you and bring untold joy while others bring

      untold hardships

4.  Life is how you respond to the joys and hardships.

Cynthia moved to Parma Hts. when she was six from the City of Cleveland.

She attended Pearl Road Elementary, Pleasant Valley Jr. High, Parma High until middle of

 Junior year, her class was split and graduated in 1963, the first graduating class of Valley Forge. She went to BGSU and graduated January 1967 in 3.5 years with BS in Education with majors in history/political science and elementary education. She married in December of 1966.

After graduation, and with her husband who was in the U.S. Air Force, Cynthia made many moves as her husband went from station to station. In 1966 they moved to Dayton, Ohio, Wright Patterson AF. In the spring of 1967, she moved to Big Spring, Texas, Webb AFB for husband’s pilot training., where she taught 4th grade until she got pregnant and had by Texas law to resign.  In1968, they moved to Fort Walton Beach, Fla., Elgin AFB, where one of her greatest joys, her son Ken was born (it was 80 degrees).

Cynthia’s husband was deployed to Danang, South Vietnam and Kenny and she moved to Ohio eventually enrolling at BGSU where she attended graduate school. Where there she managed a group of apartments.

In July of 1969, Cynthia’s husband returned from Vietnam and they move to Atwater, Ca., Castle AFB, where Cynthia taught as a substitute teacher.

In November 1969, they moved to Loring AFB, Maine. Where Cynthia taught English to troubled 7th graders.

In November of 1971, another of her greatest joys, a daughter, Andrea, was born. It was a chilly negative 20 degrees.

During this time, Cynthia’s husband was going back and forth to Vietnam. In March of 1972, they moved back to Castle AFB for him to train in flying the B52. In July, they moved to Barksdale AFB in Shreveport, La. At this point, Cynthia could not get a job teaching because he could not guarantee she would be able to stay a full year. Instead, she became assistant editor and then editor of a small magazine. She also became a liaison between the Chamber of Commerce and the Air Force base for a bombing competition.

In 1977, Cynthia graduated with her master’s degree from Louisiana Tech while serving an internship in the Air Force Human Relations area in-serving incoming airmen, working with EEOC complaints and chemical dependency issues.

Finally, in May of 1977, Cynthia’s husband would not authorize the family to move to his next station at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska. Cynthia and the children move back to Ohio and to Parma Hts.  where she substituted briefly in Berea and Parma. In October of 1977, Cynthia was hired to teach Social Sciences at Valley Forge and work with the chemical dependency program. She transferred to Arlington Elementary to teach 2nd grade. She became a much better teacher

 by learning the various defense mechanisms children adopt to cope with learning issues.

 In 1981, she transferred to Shiloh Jr. High to teach reading. Building closed after 1 year. In 1982, she transferred Greenbrier Jr. High to teach reading and eventually 8th grade history. In 1992 Cynthia transferred to Valley Forge to teach various social science classes but mainly government. In August 2008, Cynthia retired after teaching 33years.

  During Cynthia’s career in Parma Schools, she served on various PEA committees, acted as a building representative, PEA Vice President for 4 years and PEA President for 6 years. During her years, she helped negotiate 4 Board of Education/PEA contracts, served on 14 Board of Education standing committees, and wrote a NEA grant getting the PEA President released from all but one class to do PEA/ Board of Education business. Cynthia felt it was exceedingly important for the President of PEA to stay attentive to student needs.

During her career, both my children graduated from Valley Forge and graduated from Ohio Northern University and Hillsdale College. Cynthia has four spectacular grandchildren - Jacob, Pierce, Macguire, and Kennedy.

Now in retirement, Cynthia is an active volunteer in her church such as chairing our community dinner program and serving on the Outreach Committee. She also volunteers for the charity LOVE INC. (Love in the Name of Christ).