

April 3, 2011

I would like to share with you a little about what is behind my research of this horse. As I mentioned in our phone conversation, I am on staff at Water of Life Church in Plano, Texas for research, writing and publishing. I have a home office in Colorado where I was born and raised. How I ended up on staff with Doyle's ministry is in itself a miracle but that is not the subject of this note. I have come to know Doyle fairly well and not only do I know him, I have learned some about his life and his walk with God. I have also learned walking with him, that nothing God does is a coincidence, there is always a purpose and finding this horse, Hail to Genius, is no exception.

Doyle grew up in southwest Missouri, born into a family of horsemen. His grandfather was a dirt contractor doing road work, building dams and ponds and straightening creek channels, all with horse-drawn equipment. He had fifty draft horses and his sons grew up in the business. As a young boy, Doyle grew up learning and watching his own dad, a skilled horseman.

Doyle spent four years in the United States Navy as a hospital corpsman and when he returned to the states he had decided to become a veterinarian, specializing in equine medicine. After completing vet school he worked for a time in Tennessee and there was great opportunity presented to him in the industry. However, the climate in Tennessee affected his wife's health due to her respiratory problems and the success that would have been afforded him there, wasn't worth her misery and he made the decision to move to Texas. There he built 121 Veterinary hospital and established a successful equine practice and became well known in the horse industry. His reputation of honesty and integrity preceded him, in an industry that wasn't always conducive to those qualities.

Just before he entered vet school, one afternoon he was rotating the tires on his car, and the presence of God fell on him and he heard the Lord say, "*I don't want you to be a veterinarian, I want you to be a minister of the gospel.*" Doyle said he never knew fear, like he experienced at that moment, and all he could say as he sat there on the ground was, "Lord, don't send me to hell, Lord, don't send me to hell." He didn't obey God that day, and God allowed him much success, even in his unbelief and rebellion. But the day came, when it was over and Doyle knew it. At the time, he was part owner in a corporation that he really wanted to get out of and he said to the Lord, "If this is you that has been bugging me all these years, sell my interest in that corporation and I will do whatever you ask." The next day, on the way to look at a horse, he stopped for a sandwich and ran into his partners. They asked him if he was interested in selling his share. By the end of the day, the deal was done. About two weeks later he was driving down 75 and he heard God say, "*Sell your practice and obey me.*" Well, Doyle's response to that was, "I'm not doing that." He heard God say, "*You said if I would sell your share in that corporation, you would do whatever I ask.*" Doyle, said, "Well, it didn't include that!" But he knew he was had. And over a period of a few months he did sell, and God wasted little time in divesting him of all his holdings, which included farms, horses, cattle, etc.

Proverbs says, fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Doyle had some fear of God and he knew in his heart if he didn't obey God, he would be destroyed. He has said it wasn't easy, it was actually very hard, but he did obey. I have yet to meet another person in the ministry who has walked away at the top of their game, to obey God.

This brings me to the dam of Hail to Genius, Patty of Oaks. Jim Bray, owner of Wildwood Farms was one of Doyle's clients and Jim had at least 30 broodmares that Doyle treated. One of his mares, Patty of Oaks caught his eye, "She had a presence about her," he said. He had purchased ½ interest in her and she had a filly named Girl Talk at side when he brought her to his Texas farm and she was with foal to Ridgefield's Genius. Doyle foaled Hail to Genius and also named him. He said he knew as soon as he saw him, that he had the makings of a champion. He took 2nd in the halter class at the Texas State Fair in 1969 and Doyle later traded his interest in him for full ownership of Patty of Oaks. You know firsthand the horse he became.

As Doyle was learning to be led by the Spirit of God he had brought Patty of Oaks to his farm in Missouri, where he was living after he had sold his practice. Some friends were visiting Missouri and wanted to see her and Doyle took

them out to his farm where she was pastured. When they drove up she was about a ½ mile away and the people with him said, “How are you going to get her.” “Watch me”, he replied. She wasn’t wearing a halter and he didn’t have a halter or a lead rope with him, but he found some baling twine in the barn and took it with him as he started across the pasture. When he got close, she threw her head up and snorted at him, getting ready to take off. He said, “Stop!” Immediately she stopped in her tracks and he walked up to her and slipped the twine over her neck, looping it over her nose, making a make-shift halter and lead and started back toward where they were parked. She was a spirited thing and wanted to trot, and he let her trot in circles around him, as he moved the twine lead from side to side and over his head, while she pranced around him. She responded to his every move without him putting any pressure on the string.

As they made their way back to the area where he had parked, the Lord said to him, “*When I get through with you, that is how you are going to respond to me.*” Doyle thought, “Lord, I don’t even have to tighten the string on her!”

I heard this testimony years ago and have never forgotten it and since I have gotten to know Doyle I have seen that is exactly what God has done with him. His life is not his own, it belongs to God; he only does the will of the Father.

God required him to lay everything down, not only his material wealth which included the farms, horses, cattle, his hospital and his practice, but it required him to walk away from the lifestyle that went with it, and because you are familiar with that world, you would have some idea of what he forsook. It also included his reputation, because people, including family and friends thought he was crazy or having a midlife crisis or both; some still think he’s crazy.

God gave him Patty of Oaks to show him what He was going to do with his heart. And CH Hail to Genius is representative of the life he forsook, to take up the life of the Lord Jesus. It tells us in Philippians 3:

7) But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

8) Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for who I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ...”

It seemed right to share this with you. As I stated earlier, nothing with God is a coincidence, including your involvement with this horse. Your description of Hail to Genius was a blessing to Doyle and a confirmation to him of what God was showing him. I thank God for you, as does Doyle.

God Bless you,
Kathy Currier