



Passing on the Legacy: Dr. Clyde Muse – T-Ball Inventor

Parents & Kids
By Dasha Peipon

T-Ball, the popular ballgame played today by young boys and girls, was first invented and played in Starkville, MS in 1961. Now it is played all over the world using rules almost identical to the original ones.

Four teams and thirty-six boys ages 10-12 were involved the first year, and regular baseball was then played. As the program grew, money became available through Rotary sponsorship, city help, and boys' fees to hire coaches to handle daily activities as a summer job. Dr. Muse felt very strongly that eight- and nine-year-olds needed to be involved in the program. But the rules of the game in regular baseball meant that too much game time would be spent by a young pitcher trying to get a good pitch across the plate and by a young batter trying

to muster eye and muscle coordination enough to hit it. They needed to make the game interesting and provide the right experience for boys who needed to be ready to play in the Little Boys Minor League at age ten.

Much thought was given to how to make the Tee, and several parents and boys were involved in demonstrations to figure it out. Dr. Muse remembers going to an auto shop for help and deciding on a radiator hose to use for the top of the Tee because it was flexible and could be pushed up and down on the metal plumber's pipe used for the lower part to adjust for height. A clamp was attached around the hose at the top of the pipe to keep it from going down the pipe.

Dr. Muse's son Vernon said, "I remember going to the store to get the pieces my dad and I needed to build a Tee, so I could practice before our season began. That was a bigger memory than hitting my first ball off the Tee. I had no idea the positive impact that sport would have on families years later."

The result was a stationary ball, instead of a thrown pitch, and a much shorter game.

Today boys start T-ball at age five and players get two swings at the ball positioned on a Tee, made of plastic with an adjustable tube at the top to position the ball about waist-high as in the original Tee.

Julia Muse Cole, who facilitates professional learning with educators to create effective family school partnerships, said, "When my father invented T-Ball, his motive was to ensure children had healthy fun with their friends and their families. That might very well be the value still of this game. Many generations of children have since enjoyed this opportunity, including my own grandchildren. I'm just sadly disappointed he didn't get the patent," she says with a chuckle.

The children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Dr. Clyde Muse share a special memory of support from him. Not only was he there to support them as they learned the game, but so many other life's lessons.

Vernon shared, "When my father was in college, his mother saw just one game he played. His father did not attend any. I think that's what made my father want to create a positive experience for families through sports. I don't remember my father ever missing any of my football, basketball or baseball games, and he always had something positive to say even if we lost."

Muse's daughter, remembers how he always supported her in everything she did. "He was always there, guiding me to make the right decisions and holding me up when I was down. He gave me the confidence I needed to move forward in difficult situations. The calmness of his spirit and his way of making me feel like the most special person in the world molded me into the person I am today."

Susan also noted, "My father made a huge difference in how I supported my children and now my grandchildren. No matter how busy he is at work, his family always comes first. As parents and grandparents, we should all adhere to that commitment."

Recently Dr. Muse was honored at his great-grandchild Lee Monsour's T-ball game. At the game Dr. Muse received a gift from the Orioles team – a special T-ball diamond that was signed by the 4-year-olds on the team, and a home plate from one of the league's Tees, signed by the team. Smith Boykin, coach of the team and President of North Jackson Youth Baseball and Softball, stated, "Our entire league was honored by Dr. Muse's presence and participation today. He's a founding father of a game that has brought and continues to bring such joy to so many children and families worldwide."

As Lee prepared for the season, she had an opportunity to learn a few pointers from her Great-Granddaddy. He always has a way of making her feel special and confident. No pressure to win, be the first, the best, or a home run hitter. The goal has always been just to experience the spirit and fun of the game. Lee's Dad, Chris Monsour said, "Since I can remember, Granddaddy stressed the importance of family and being involved. Whether it was any of my major milestones or those of my two girls, Granddaddy has always been there, actively engaged in every victory or encouraging them in defeat."

Jamie Hall, one of Dr. Muse's granddaughters said, "Granddaddy's kind and gentle spirit and voice of encouragement are ever-present in my childhood memories. He has always been there for me for major life events to everyday moments—supporting and guiding me by his positive example and with his sincere and generous heart. Seeing the joy and excitement of my three children, Elizabeth, Benjamin and Emma-line, as they share their own milestones and stories with Granddaddy, constantly reminds me of how special he is."

How to be a better father

by Terence Chatmon

Ephesians 6:4, "Fathers, [b] do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord."

Since I recognized my own shortcomings as a father about 15-20 years ago, I've been doing a lot of research and study of the fatherhood crisis in America. One thing I've discovered is that, more than anything else, and no matter the kind of father you are, there is never a time in a child's life when he or she doesn't crave a father's love.

You may not be able to spend much time with your child because of a broken marriage or business travel, or whatever it may be, but I think the number one way to be a better father is to make sure that in every single interaction you have with your child, you are assuring him or her of your love. Maybe it's just an email or text once a day if you're not able to see them in person, but they need to lay their head on the pillow every night assured and confident in their father's love.

After assurances of their father's love, the next thing children need to hear is their father's belief in them. No matter what their friends or their teachers or even their mom says to them about what a capable and special person they are, it never carries the weight that it does coming from Dad. If you express your belief in your child, regularly and specifically, it serves as a great deterrent to the doubts that can creep in and rob them of their self-confidence and positive outlook about themselves.

This is vitally important in the older elementary and middle school years, where we are seeing so many tragic instances of bullying and social media shaming. No matter what the world says about them, if a child knows inside "my father believes in me and sees value in me, no matter what anyone else says," they are more able to filter out and put less stock in those external negative opinions.

Finally, while we need to reassure our children of our love for and belief in them, we also need to be clear that while we love them, sometimes we cannot condone their behavior. Our children need to know their boundaries, and that because their father loves and wants to protect them, there will be consequences for going beyond those boundaries.

Children can understand, even if they can't verbalize it, that you can love and accept them without loving and accepting all of their behaviors. They can even recognize it is love that wants to protect them from the harm that comes from disobedience. If they are not given boundaries and discipline, they realize there is something lacking in the love they receive. True love loves unconditionally, but comes with accountability. Children need to know they are loved, and loved enough to want what's best for them, which means the occasional course correction. Fathers who are absent may be afraid to punish, believing it will drive

The Farmer's Market is open. It is open every Friday morning. It is in the same place it was last year; in front of BankPlus, at an old closed service (gas) station. Make sure you buy some fresh vegetables and eat healthy.

Parents, school is out. Do not allow your children to roam up and down the streets and roads. The COVID-19 pandemic is far from being over. Use common sense and try to protect your children.

Let's support our mayor in trying to make Lexington a beautiful, safe and healthy place to live.

Mrs. Edna Newton is still sick. First Sunday, I heard she's still sick. However, I don't know if she's still in the hospital or at home. God is allowing Mr. Percy Applewhite of Coila to improve greatly after his fall out of a tree. Now his is able to drive his truck. Let's pray that God keeps on blessing him.

Pray for the people who were flooded out of their homes. We need to help anyway we can.

When it comes to buying things and you have to travel a long way carrying money, you need to go by the police station or the sheriff's office and get an officer to ride with you. One from the town you are going to will be sufficient. If you don't do that, maybe you could get some people to ride with you. Just don't go alone.

Sunday evening a friend and I were out at the walking track at the hospital. While walking we saw someone being airlifted. I don't know

their children from them, but that could not be further from the truth, as long as the children know the discipline comes out of love.

Intersecting Faith & Life: So, this coming Father's Day, let's all resolve to step-up our fatherhood game, by making sure our children know of our unconditional love for and belief in them, and by not being afraid to hold them accountable, as they will recognize this as part and parcel of a great father's love. Love Well.

Terence Chatmon is the author of "Do Your Children Believe? Becoming Intentional about your Family's Faith and Spiritual Legacy." He is also president and CEO of the FCCI (FCCI.org), a network of executives spanning more than 100 countries that equips and encourages leaders to see their companies and careers as powerful tools for community transformation.

LEGALS

IN THE COURT OF HOLMES COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
EVON ROGERS PORTER PLAINTIFF
VS.
ODALE EUGENE PORTER DEFENDANT
CAUSE NO. 21-0065

SUMMONS
(By Publication)
THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
TO: O'DALE EUGENE PORTER

You have been made a Defendant by another seeking a divorce. Defendants other than you in this action is None.

You are required to mail or hand deliver a written response to the Complaint filed against you in this action to EVON ROGERS PORTER, whose address is 44 Cedarwood Drive, Pickens, Ms.

YOUR RESPONSE MUST BE MAILED OR DELIVERED NOT LATER THAN THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE 28 DAY OF May WHICH IS THE FIRST DAY OF PUBLICATION OF THIS SUMMONS. IF YOUR RESPONSE IS NOT SO MAILED OR DELIVERED, A JUDGEMENT BY DEFAULT WILL BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU FOR THE MONEY OR OTHER RELIEF DEMANDED IN THIS COMPLAINT.

You must also file original of you response with the Clerk of this Court within a reasonable time afterward.

Issued under my hand and seal of said Court, this 28 day of May 2021.

/s/ Charlie Luckett,
Chancery Clerk
By /s/ Charlie Luckett, C.
6-3,10,17p

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HOLMES COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
CIVIL ACTION FILE
NO. 26CH1:21-cv-00069
IN RE: LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF JERRY DUBARD, DECEASED
DWAYNE DUBARD, EXECUTOR
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary having been granted to the undersigned by an order of the Chancery Court of Holmes County, Mississippi, under date of June 9, 2021, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against the Estate of Jerry DuBard, Deceased, to have the same probated and registered by the clerk of the Chancery Court of Holmes County, Mississippi, within ninety (90) days from the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors or that they will be forever barred.

WITNESS my signature, on this the 9th day of June, 2021.

DWAYNE DUBARD
Executor of the Estate of
Jerry DuBard, Deceased
JASON M. WHITE
Attorney at Law
Solicitor.

6-17,24;7-1,8b

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HOLMES COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CALVIN LEWIS, DECEASED NO.: 21-0043
BIANCA HESTER PETITIONER

SUMMONS
TO: ALL UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF CALVIN LEWIS, DECEASED

NOTICE TO RESPONDENTS
You have been made Respondents in the Petition filed in this Court by Bianca Hester seeking an adjudication of Heirship of Calvin Lewis, Deceased.

You are required to appear on August 5, 2021 at 9:00 a.m., at Holmes County Chancery Court in Lexington, Mississippi, in the Courtroom of the Honorable Robert G. Clark, III, to respond to the Petition for Determination of Heirship filed against you.

YOU ARE REQUIRED TO APPEAR AND FAILURE TO APPEAR WILL RESULT IN JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT FOR THE MONEY OR OTHER RELIEF DEMANDED IN THE MOTION. YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO FILE AN ANSWER. If you do, you must also file the original of your Response with the Clerk of this Court within a reasonable time afterward.

ISSUED UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID COURT, this the 9th day of June, 2021.

CHARLIE LUCKETT
CHANCERY CLERK,
HOLMES COUNTY
BY: /s/ Charlie Luckett
6-17,24;7-1b

where the person was being carried, but most folks assume it's Jackson.

On Thursday of last week, how many of you thought about the nursery rhyme that says "Rain, rain go away, come again some other day. Little Johnny wants to play"? Imagine Johnny was you and play was whatever you wanted to do and you did not get to do it. Some of you might have thought about the statement that says "It rained cats and dogs."

*All Three

(Continued from page 1.)

Harris, Erving and Landfair are currently housed at the Holmes-Humphries Regional Correctional Facility and are being charged with the murder and theft of Kyle Craig, a 26 year old man from Ocean Springs who was attempting to buy an ATV from the suspects.

*Mayor

(Continued from page 1.)

Alderman - *Leroy T. Buchanan, 269, *Erma Head Dean, 262, *Emily Denton Reese, 344, Joe Gallion, 201, Dorothy Jefferson, 142, *Larry (Boodie) Jefferson, 250, Ahmad (Shawn) Johnson, 160, Herreseen Smith Kinsey, 140, Kendrick Noel, 74, *Derrick Wilson, 309, Leo Wilson, 190

WEST

Mayor - *Sammy Aldridge
Alderman - *Emma Herron, Jean J. Aldridge, Ricky E. Farmer, William L. Bowie, William R. Hathcock

An * denotes winners of their race.