



SINCE

1841

WOODLAND

HISTORIC CEMETERY & ARBORETUM

Edith L. Boyer

Inventor and Tag Factory Owner

Edith Boyer worked alongside her husband, Israel Donald Boyer, as an inventor and had been working on a tag machine together. In 1899, Mr. Boyer was called away on business and upon his return he contracted scarlet fever and died shortly thereafter. It was Mrs. Boyer who saw to the completion of the tagging machine. She made it work and established a factory. It's how she put her son through college. Mrs. Boyer lived at 102 Findlay Street and The Boyer Tag Factory was located at their home place.

What did this new invention about twenty inches high and no wider than a typewriter do?

The machine took paper or cardboard and string and "presented them beautifully finished with hole punched, strings tied in the openings and knotted, counted in bunches of one hundred and made in any size or shape."

Mrs. Boyer manufactured tags for businesses in and around Dayton but also for merchants all over the world. Her small factory was producing annually, from about 1910 to 1915, seventeen to twenty million tags.

She was known to have always possessed a mechanical aptitude and she shared this with her husband in his work. Mr. Boyer was a designer at Buckeye Brass Works, was in charge of the experimental room at NCR and eventually in business for himself. Mr. Boyer held patents including in 1889 a new improved Cash Register while working at NCR; in 1891 a Cash Register and Indicator including a "gong and hammer"; and in 1893, as an inventor on his own, he patented a Revolving Fan which would be used in restaurants and offices. Additionally, in 1897, he and his wife were listed as patentees of a Machine for Making Caramels and a Spinning Top toy.



Mrs. Boyer's mind kept moving and she invented what was dubbed the "first motor mechanical toy." It was a "hill climbing engine" and another patent was received for this invention.

After the death of her husband, local mechanics in the factories of Dayton whom Mrs. Boyer sought out when she had a new idea gave her their undivided attention for they respected her and the work she did and her drive to retain her own home and provide an education for her son.

Mrs. Boyer was not only an accomplished inventor but she held the title of the first official weather station observer in Dayton's congressional district. Her first weather station was located on the roof of her Huffman Hill home. She had been recording her own weather observations since 1882 and had been supplying the local newspapers of her reports for years. In 1911 when she was officially recognized, the state paid her \$36 a year for her services.

Born Edith Ernestine Longstreth, she was the daughter of Pennsylvania Quakers. She helped to establish a Friends church in Dayton but also assisted in the formation of the First Unitarian Church as well. She participated in numerous peace movements and held membership in the Women's International League of Peace. She was a frequent contributor to the people's column in the Dayton Daily News. She had graduated from Central High School and was the first girl graduate in Dayton to receive a medal in special recognition of scholastic ability. Mrs. Boyer went on to attend Ohio State University.

Edith Boyer was an intelligent, remarkable and fascinating woman.

Sources: Dayton Daily News and The Dayton Herald



MRS. EDITH L. BOYER

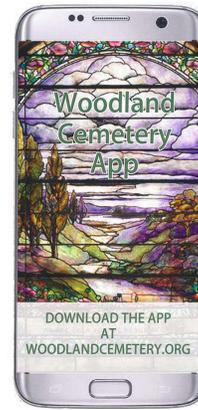


Edith L. Boyer was born March 7, 1857 and died on August 28, 1944 at the age of 87. Israel Donald Boyer died of scarlet fever at the age of 41 on January 17, 1900. They are both located in Section 103 Lot 1977 in an unmarked graves.

As Spring comes upon us, you can take your own walking tour at the cemetery or a virtual tour from the comfort of your couch by visiting our website at: woodlandcemetery.org/tours.

From your phone you will be prompted to download our app. Take one of 12 walking tours we have available for your enjoyment at the cemetery. If you are on your desktop, laptop or tablet, you can take the tour right from the tour page. We will be adding more tours so come back often to learn about the men and women who made it Great in Dayton.

[Download the mobile app for your phone by clicking here.](#)



Memories of a loved one should last for generations.

Using our app, you can:

- Navigate to your relative or friend's grave using our GPS-based system
- Share stories about your family
- Upload photos and video
- Share memories with your family on Facebook

Your loved one's memorial page is automatically created when you make cemetery arrangements with our office. You may also share and upload information by using our burial database via our website (woodlandcemetery.org). (please contact our office if you need assistance)



THANK YOU for supporting us through our 180th Anniversary!

We hope you will continue to support the Woodland Arboretum Foundation as we move through 2022. Support of the Chapel restoration and preservation project is our most critical need as you will soon see the outside of the Chapel and Administration Building receiving new sandstone pieces and eroding and disintegrating elements replaced. Once the stonework is complete, the beloved Tiffany windows will return and be put back in place. The Tiffany mosaic floor will be restored and the beautiful interior woodwork will also receive a facelift. We are hopeful to open the doors to the public once again in late 2022.

Please consider making a first time donation or an annual donation to the Chapel Fund. Donate on our secure website by clicking below or click on the check to receive a donation form to mail in.

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We Donated \$531.98 to Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum in 2021

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2021 Donation Summary
\$531.98

Total Donation to Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum

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