

## History of 31611 Pin Oak and Wisteria (Wistaria) Farms

I would like to offer a little history of Wistaria Farms and the house at 31611 Pin Oak to any new owner and member of the neighborhood.

The property where Wisteria Farms is located was originally part of a large tract of land owned by a couple named Roscoe and Lottie Seyle. I believe Mr. Seyle was an architect or engineer and decided to subdivide the 35 or so acres out of his property to create Wistaria Farms. Mrs. Seyle was a school teacher in the Magnolia School district and was the one who decided to spell Wistaria with an a instead of an e! She said you could spell it either way and she liked it with an a!

The house at 31611 Pin Oak was built by a man named Felix Phillips around 1970. I know this because my parents bought the house next door in December 1972 and this house was already built. Mr Phillips was a very interesting man. I believe he was a carpenter by trade and built the house himself. I was 14 years old and a freshman at Magnolia High School.

Mr. Phillips called me "no work" because I was a bit spoiled and didn't have a very strong work ethic. Mr. Phillips on the other hand was a bit of a workaholic. He was a depression era survivor and knew what it meant to lose everything you had.

Mr. Phillips wife was named Mavis. She was a very sweet little lady. I remember her sitting in the front room with the windows open playing her organ. I believe she was the organist at their church. They were very a devoted Christian couple.

The Phillips health deteriorated and required them to sell the house and move into Houston to be closer to their Doctors and health facilities. I don't remember the year but they sold the house to a woman named Ruby Peach. I believe it was in the '80's because my mother was still alive and she died in 1987. Mrs. Peach was not really a friendly neighbor and after my mother died she did not get along with my father.

I graduated from Dental school in 1990 and my wife, son and I moved into the house next door at 31603 Pin Oak with my dad. Mrs. Peach was still living in the house at 31611 at that time.

Then at some time after that Mrs. Peach moved out and sold the house to a very nice couple named Geraldine and William Griffin. The Griffins were very nice people and good neighbors to my dad, me and my family.

After a bit more time Mrs. Griffin fell ill and unfortunately passed away. After that, understandably, Mr. Griffin was quite sad and really put all of his love and energy into his little dog named Prissy. She was a cute little dog and I can vividly remember Mr.Griffin and Prissy taking long walks up and down the streets in Wistaria Farms. He wasn't really walking Prissy, it was more like he walked around carrying her!

Prissy was an older dog and unfortunately when she passed I think Mr. Griffin had all the sorrow he could bear because he passed away a short time after Prissy.

Sometime prior to all of this, I approached Mr. Griffin and told him if he ever considered selling the property to please let me know before he contacted a real estate agent. After he passed his daughter contacted me and said he had instructed her to talk to me about buying the house.

After we bought the house my oldest son graduated high school and went away to college. My father passed away and my father in laws health deteriorated to the point he had to move into an assisted living facility. This left the big house next door and the small house behind it feel very empty and much larger than we had previously needed with all the family living there. We made the decision to sell the big house and move into Mr. Griffins house.

We remodeled a bit and it soon felt very much like home. We never really missed the big house next door like we were afraid we might. I had a lot of good memories in that property since 1972 when my mother and dad bought it and since 1990 when I graduated Dental School and moved back out to it. Anyway, when the COVID virus hit and the Texas State Board mandated that Dentist shut their offices for eight weeks it made me realize I didn't really miss doing dentistry so I decided to step away from that aspect of dentistry. My wife and I found a beautiful little piece of property 30 minutes away in the community of White Hall and decided to sell the house at 31611 Pin Oak.

Sincerely,

Preston E. Cutbirth D.D.S.  
Owner – 31611 Pin Oak St, Magnolia, TX 77355