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**A-ALL PEST TERMITE EXTERMINATORS, INC.**  
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# The Party Animal News



## When God winks at You

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When I met Bob Forsyth for the first time, he needed help solving a pest control problem inside his kitchen. Many pest control companies have the practice of treating the outside only, so sometimes the internal problems are a challenge for them. His problem was a pantry pest (weevils), which are associated with stored foods like cereal. But before we could get into a discussion of this pest problem, he asked me if I accepted Christ as my Savior. I grew up in the Baptist church and their process was that at some point in your life you decided to accept the Lord by walking down the aisle at the end of the Sunday service and making this declaration. In most cases you were a teenager, like I was. For teenagers to go to the front of a congregation of hundreds is scary, but not as scary as when you get dunked at a Sunday night service. So my answer to Mr. Forsyth was yes.

I might have thought my answer ended the conversation, but it didn't. He gave me a book he'd written in 1989 and revised in 2017 titled "*Deliverance*". When I first met him he was around 88 years old and still living in his home. I continued to treat his home every quarter to maintain a no pest environment and even checked for termites by crawling under the home. Every visit included a little discussion about religion. One of his daily morning activities was to go to the store and give testimony and/or witness to someone at the store. He would tell me that he thought he might have opened that persons eyes and converted them the day I was there, and his attitude was pretty optimistic.

As for me, I tried to understand the logic of his book. I just could not grasp it, but somehow during this time frame I was reading one of Ann's old books from her childhood collection. Robert L. Short wrote "*The Gospel According to Peanuts*" and I could understand this book and how Charles M. Schulz used his strip as a Sunday school lesson to his readers. When "*A Charlie Brown Christmas*" was being developed for TV in 1965, Schulz made sure the religious theme was not changed. In 1962, the Supreme Court had decided prayer was not allowed in public schools because of the first amendment. In my opinion, I think Schulz was sending a message. Even in the beginning of Schulz's early religious life he was preaching in the streets. He told that when he was doing this once, he glanced over and saw some golf buddies who did not even know he was religious. Schulz felt that everyone should give public testimony.

I asked Mr. Forsyth if he had known this about Charles Schulz. He had not, so on my next visit I gave him a copy of "*The Gospel According to Peanuts*" we'd ordered for him. Our conversations continued. He told me he played on the Kansas University football team and was a junior on the team in 1954. He also told me that he was involved in the prison ministry in Texas. He did not do this in the summertime, however, because the prisons in Texas do not have air conditioning. (This is about to change in the next few years).

One of the most heart breaking stories he told me was about his wife. My recollection is that Julie Ann did not want to go to an assisted living facility; she wanted to be home. I think she had Alzheimers and sadly, she didn't know her husband toward the end, as is the case for so many. One time he was helping her in the bathroom and it was as if she woke up and recognized him and told him how much she appreciated him. He recognized her lucidity for that brief moment. She passed away in 2010. Ann wanted me to read the book "*When God Winks at You*" by Squire Rushnell. It has some incredible stories. I would consider that story from Mr. Forsyth a wink.

In "*A Charlie Brown Christmas*", Charlie Brown goes with Linus to get a tree for the play in an uncharacteristically optimistic fashion. He could have picked a perfect modern tree, but he picked the one that needed help and love. Bob Forsyth could have preached to the choir, but he took a different path. As I was putting this letter to print, I checked the online obituaries and discovered that Bob passed away on November 23<sup>rd</sup> this year. The obituary stated he preached every Monday at the Union Gospel Mission for thirty years, on top of the prison ministry and his witnessing to the common man (like me). Charlie Brown knew what tree needed love, and Charles Robert Forsyth knew who needed love. His gravestone will be engraved "Man of God". I totally agree with this and you might agree I got a God wink. – David



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**Happy Holidays!**

*We will be closed from December 24<sup>th</sup> thru January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Have a wonderful holiday with your family and friends!*

