

# BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

**NAME:** Patrick John Tyson

**BIRTH:** 15 March 1931 at Detroit, Michigan

**MARITAL STATUS:** Widower. Married to Angeline Esther Babinski from June of 1955 to February of 2001.

**CHILDREN:** Daughter Karin (Shaine) born 20 September 1959.  
Son Kevin born 10 December 1960.  
Daughter Kathleen born 23 July 1962.

## MILITARY SERVICE

U. S. Navy, April of 1948 to April of 1952. Honorable Discharge. Attained rating of Electronics Technician, First Class (E-6).

## EDUCATION

University of Michigan, **AB in Physical Geography**, June 1955. Completed four years of coursework in three years. Honors, Graduated *cum laude*, elected to Phi Beta Kappa. Minor in Near Eastern Studies. Undergraduate language: two years of conversational Arabic.

University of Michigan, **MA in Physical Geography**, January of 1957. Specialized in remote sensing. Honored as **University Fellow** in 1956.

University of Michigan, **PHD in Physical Geography**, June of 1959. Doctoral dissertation: "Refinement of Terrestrial Parameters in the Simulation of the Urban Heat Island". Named **Herbert E. Boynton Scholar**.

Northwestern University, **Postdoctoral Work**, summer of 1961. Specialized in the application of quantitative techniques to the earth sciences. Elected **Fellow of the National Science Foundation**.

## OCCUPATIONS

**Professor of Earth Sciences** at various universities from 1958 through 1983, with time off for other activities (see below). I specialized in the atmospheric sciences, particularly climatology and atmospheric physics.

**Geographic Attaché**, 1964-1969. Bureau of Intelligence and Research, U. S. Department of State. I collected information and materials of interest to my government. I spent five years living and working in the Middle East. I ran intelligence missions in Bahrain, Cyprus, Egypt, Greece, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, and the United Arab Emirates.

Although I worked out of local embassies and consulates, I did not take direction from or consult with their personnel. My activities were almost entirely field activities. I spent little time behind a desk. I took my orders from and reported only to Washington.

My family and I lived in Cairo until the 1967 war and in Tehran afterwards. I received one major promotion and several commendations. For protocol purposes, my rank was equivalent to O-6 in the military; that is, full colonel in the Army or captain in the Navy.

**Director of Environmental Management** (1974-1979), West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission, Muskegon, Michigan: I directed environmental planning programs for a three-county (1,600 square miles) regional commission. I wrote proposals, acquired funding, staffed, supervised, and wrote reports on programs in water quality, land use, population projections, and outdoor recreation planning. I developed and funded budgets of up to

\$400,000 per year. Over my five-year tenure, I wrote proposals that generated some \$1,100,000 in WMSRDC income.

I served as **Program Director** for the four-year *Areawide Water Quality Management Planning Program* (Section 208 of the U. S. Clean Water Act of 1972). Virtually all of the activities under this program were done in-house and under my direction. I designed and directed programs in water quality data collection, data analysis, management plan development, preparation of environmental impact statements, and public participation. I conceived and developed innovative techniques for both population projections and land-use projections. The techniques proved superior to those of both the U. S. Census Bureau and the state's Office of Land Use.

Under my impetus, ours was the first 208 agency in the country to plan for the management of toxic water pollutants, and was also the first to plan for groundwater quality protection. The programs and proposals that I developed for these two endeavors were used by Region V of the USEPA as models for other 208 agencies in the region.

I was appointed by the Governor of the State of Michigan to his **Task Force on Water Quality**, and served on that advisory body for four years. During that time, I made an average of thirty presentations a year to various professional groups, special interest groups, and segments of the general public interested in water quality. I was appointed to the **Rules Committee** for the state's **Hazardous Wastes Management Act**. I helped to write the administrative rules governing the definition, testing, monitoring, and enforcement of hazardous waste generation, storage, transportation, and disposal.

**CONSULTING CLIMATOLOGIST** and **TECHNICAL WRITER** (1983 to present): As a consulting climatologist I prepared climatic analyses for a variety of clients. These included publishers of travel and outdoor publications, travel agents, and shippers of weather-sensitive materials.

As a **technical writer**, I wrote academic and commercial proposals for project funding, final consulting reports from rough drafts and field notes,

planning studies, environmental impact statements, and similar studies. These writings were used by those who commissioned them, and were generally submitted under their own or their firm's names.

From 1988 to 1993, I served as **Contributing Editor** to *Condé Nast Traveler Magazine* and from 1993 to 2005 as **Contributing Editor** to *Travel + Leisure Magazine*. My work was essentially the same at both magazines. I wrote a bylined monthly weather feature on the destinations featured in that month's issue. I also wrote an occasional feature article on some aspect of weather or climate of interest to the magazine's readers.

I also contributed articles and features to *USA Today*, *Golf Illustrated*, *Outdoor Life*, and *Cosmopolitan*. My climatic summaries were featured in Rand McNally's *Vacation Places Rated* (1986). In addition, I prepared detailed climatic summaries for some seven hundred featured destinations in the **Lonely Planet** series of travel guides.

## PUBLICATIONS

I have more than fifty years of experience in research in the atmospheric sciences. The results of this research have been published in some three-hundred and fifty articles, reports, letters, and features in national and international print media, and in more than a thousand articles and features online.

I have my own domain: [www.climates.com](http://www.climates.com) . This domain has four sections:

1. **CLIMATIC SUMMARIES** – Month-by-month detailed summaries of the most likely weather at more than a thousand travel destinations around the world. Here you will find information on how much sunshine the place gets, morning and afternoon temperatures, how warm the water is, how often it rains, how much snow falls—plus a great deal more. These summaries can be downloaded and printed.
2. **CLIMATE CHANGE** – This section contains writings on global warming and other aspects of climate change. They range from the popular to the highly technical.

Be warned, I am a scientist—not an activist. I believe that carbon dioxide is one important element in the current global warming process, but I do not believe that we have sufficient scientific evidence (as opposed to scientific opinion) to make major changes in our economy or lifestyle.

3. **THE KINETIC ATMOSPHERE** – This section contains professional papers on theoretical physics. They view atmospheric characteristics and behavior through the twin lenses of kinetic gas theory and statistical mechanics and thermodynamics. Some of the papers may be understood by an educated layperson. Others require some familiarity with atmospheric physics, kinetic gas theory, statistical mechanics, and mathematics through the calculus. Test yourself. You may be pleasantly surprised.

4. **OTHER WRITINGS** – This catch-all section contains a wide variety of writings on a wide variety of subjects. It contains articles written for popular magazines and books, letters to various editors, philosophical writings, political writings, and even—gasp!—romantic and erotic poetry.

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If you have comments, please write to me at: [pjtyson@climates.com](mailto:pjtyson@climates.com)