

VINTAGE PONTOON BRIDGE

The WWII vintage pontoon bridge was the only access to the Island, and a scary thing to cross. Edgar Yow won the attention of Raleigh officials and Senators in Washington, and in 1955 the current bridge was completed. This made Topsail Island easier to visit. It also practically paved the way for the high-level bridge at the upper end.

Edgar L. Yow served the Topsail Island communities for many years right up to his last days. He died in 1983 and was buried on Memorial Day. This seemed most fitting, because he was a patriotic man who thought a lot of his country.

Our beloved island owes much to Edgar L. Yow. Because of Ed's insight and initiative, the island was able to shed its military yoke, and now we can claim our history as a recognized island. Edgar named Topsail Island, and even suggested names for many of our streets which remain to this day.

(I am indebted to Edgar's wife, Mrs. Arlene Yow, and his former secretary, Ms. Peggy Lewis, for their recollections and generous assistance in researching Mr. Yow's files. Mrs. Yow still lives in Surf City.)

By: David Stallman

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