

Meet our Founder D. Gary Young

Gary grew up in rural Idaho in a 16x20 cabin until age 4 when his father built a 30x30 cabin where he lived until he was 17. He grew up with a strong work ethic ranching, hunting, and logging. He dreamed of moving to Canada and in 1967 at the age of 18, moved his horse 30 miles outside Quesnel, British Columbia built a small horse ranch and began logging.

On February 8, 1973 at 24 years old Gary suffered a severe logging accident when a cut tree sheared off and hit him in the head resulting in fractures of the skull, pelvis, vertebrae, ribs, scapula, ruptured discs and ruptured spinal cord in three places. Severe depression set in and 2 failed suicide attempts then 253 days of consuming only water and lemon juice, Gary began to feel movement in his right toe. Doctors' only explanation was that he had deprived his body of all nutrients required to build scar tissue perhaps allowing some nerve endings to reroute and reconnect. This was the beginning of 13 years of intense pain and frustration while he recovered to the point of walking.

He later went home in a wheelchair and began selling paintings in his hometown; though this was not enough to earn an income. He defied all odds and got a job driving a logging truck which was retro-fitted with hand controls. He later moved to California, studied Naturopathy and built a research center for physical and emotional well being as his single desire was help people find solutions to their own problems. An invitation from a friend to Geneva, Switzerland to learn about essential oils was the beginning of his path to discovery.

In 1992 Gary bought his first 160 acres which became the St. Maries farm. Many advancements took place with the fields, the distillation, and equipment and in 1994, Young Living became incorporated. Throughout the years Gary has travelled to many countries to study plant and essential oil history including France, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Somalia, Oman, Ecuador, Croatia and the list goes on.

Young Living has since grown to a global company with over a billion dollars in sales, a Young Living Foundation that gives back and helps thousands of less fortunate individuals, an opportunity for its members to create a financial future of their choosing with an incredible network marketing structure and compensation plan.

D. Gary Young is truly a pioneer in essential oil research, an inventor of equipment, a developer of the process, a scientist and formulator in the laboratory, an educator on the cutting edge of discovery and a leader in usage and application, who has taught millions of people in many countries. With the education and experience of almost 30 years in growing crops for essential oil production and designing, building, and operating distilleries around the world, D. Gary Young has certainly earned the distinction of "The World Leader in Essential Oils".