

Scott,

It was great to talk to you on the phone yesterday the past month has been unreal to find out I really did own Duane's 57' Les Paul. I think it's really awesome that you've had it professionally restored and great guitarists are able to play it.

About a month ago I was poking around online and stumble on the video with Richard Brent and another guy supposedly playing the 57' Goldtop. I'm thinking yeah I had one similar and didn't look that good. Then, Richard starts the story of how the guitar was found by Billy at Coastal Discount Music in 1977. I think, shit, is this true? I put my 57' on consignment with Jimmy in 77'. I found Richard's email online and emailed him. He called me, then Billy called me and we share stories and BOOM it was Duane's guitar.

My story;

Around 1975, I was a big music fan (Allman Bros. especially), always loved guitar. So I start taking lessons at Rickards Music Center on then Volusia Avenue in Daytona. The person giving lessons was Randy Roberts who I had known from around Daytona, he and his brother Ronnie had various bands together. So I'm using a beater Strat and Randy knows I'm looking for something better. He calls me one day to come over to his parent's house. We sit down, he owns a beautiful Cherry Sunburst and opens this guitar case and shows me a stripped out Les Paul. He says he's willing to sell it to me for a 100 bucks. I thought well maybe, rough shape and no pickups or back plates etc. We keep talking and during conversation he says Duane owned it and traded it away at the Peabody concert. Nice story but who knows? So, I say OK its better than what I have. I'm taking a guitar class at DBCC (now Daytona State) with Ted Conner, he is a phenomenal player and teacher full of stories. He talks about Duane and some guy named Neil Young coming around sticking their ears in his amp listening to licks (Neil's mom lived in New Smyrna Beach). Ted doesn't say much about the 57' except you need pickups. He puts me in touch with an old guy living around the corner, I think his name was Mr. Shields and he installs a pair of humbucker pickups. Now I'm cookin'.

In 1977, I'm fixing to go to Florida State and need cash. I put the guitar in Coastal with Jimmy on consignment for \$350. Billy walks in and the rest you know.....

Take care and looking forward to Macon!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Anderson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

12-1-2017

Rob Anderson

Now you have my signature too..... LOL