The 1946 Army-Navy Game: Replay at The Palace
You’ll never guess why.

In the fading twilight of Philadelphia’s Municipal stadium, over 100,000 frenzied football fans were counting down the final seconds of what many later called the greatest college football game ever played. It was November 30, 1946, and mighty undefeated Army was about to be upset by an incredible Navy comeback. Army’s three touchdown lead had shrunk to 21-18, and Navy had just driven down to the Army 8 yard line with 30 seconds left, but no more timeouts.

With third and goal, Navy snapped the ball and their famed halfback “Pistol Pete” Williams swept around the end, as Arnold Tucker and a swarm of Army tacklers cut off the goal line. Williams knew he had to get out of bounds to stop the clock for one last Navy try for the winning score. As he desperately stretched, fans crowded the sideline. This was the first nationally televised football game, and President Harry Truman was one of those fans hanging on Williams’ last run.

70 years later, Palace Renaissance resident Arnold Tucker welcomed his old Miami High teammate and then rival Pete Williams to a thrilling celebration of a great moment in sports history. They were joined by top brass from today’s Army and Navy, and Palace residents and friends who hung on every story. Who won the game? You had to be there.