### Nuggets of Fun and Nostalgia for Treasure Valley Golden-Agers

# I've Learned—by Andy Rooney

**I've learned....** That the best classroom in the world is at the feet of an elderly person.

**I've learned....** That when you're in love, it shows.

**I've learned....** That just one person saying to me, 'You've made my day!' makes my day.



**I've learned....** That having a child fall asleep in your arms is one of the most peaceful feelings in the world.

**I've learned....** That being kind is more important than being right.

**I've learned....** That you should never say no to a gift from a child.

**I've learned....** That I can always pray for someone when I don't have the strength to help him in some other way.

**I've learned....** That no matter how serious your life requires you to be, everyone needs a friend to act goofy with.

**I've learned....** That sometimes all a person needs is a hand to hold and a heart to understand.

**I've learned....** That simple walks with my father around the block on summer nights when I was a child did wonders for me as an adult.

**I've learned....** That life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes.

**I've learned....** That we should be glad God doesn't give us everything we ask for.

**I've learned....** That money doesn't buy class.

**I've learned....** That it's those small daily happenings that make life so spectacular.

(Continued on page 2)

## Father's Day In Heaven



I love you and I miss you, Dad, and though you've passed away, you'll never be forgotten, for I think of you each day.

If heaven celebrates this day how special it will be. A gathering of the many dads upon our family tree.

Your father and grandfather and great grandfather too. How wonderful it is, if they can spend this day with you.

May you know how much I love you though I'm here and you are there. Happy Father's Day in heaven to the best dad anywhere!







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### **Respect for His Country**



An elderly veteran on hospice wanted to get a meal with his wife at a local pizza restaurant.

There he sat with his oxygen machine and tubes and his cap that identified his branch of service in a long past war.

In the same restaurant, a middle school choir was also enjoying lunch. Several of them saw him and started to sing the national anthem. The entire choir stood up, faced him, and joined in singing.

This old and broken-down warrior struggled to stand, placed his hand/cap over his heart, and wept as the choir sang. The humble expression on his face said everything to me.

There stands a true hero. Also, the actions of these kids tell me that even though some people say America is bruised, she for sure ain't broken. God bless us all.

Credit: Wendell Nope

**I've Learned** — Continued from Page 1

I've learned.... That under everyone's hard shell is someone who wants to be appreciated and loved.

I've learned.... That to ignore the facts does not change the facts.

I've learned.... That when you plan to get even with someone, you are only letting that person continue to hurt you.

I've learned.... That love, not time, heals all wounds.

I've learned.... That the easiest way for me to grow as a person is to surround myself with people smarter than I am.

**I've learned....** That everyone you meet deserves to be greeted with a smile..

I've learned.... That no one is perfect until you fall in love with them.

**I've learned...** That life is tough, but I'm tougher.

**I've learned....** That opportunities are never lost; someone will take the ones you miss.

I've learned.... That when you harbor bitterness, happiness will dock elsewhere.

I've learned.... That I wish I could have told my Mom that I love her one more time before she passed away.

I've learned.... That one should keep his words both soft and tender, because tomorrow he may have to eat them.

**I've learned....** That a smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks.



**I've learned....** That when your newly born grandchild holds your little finger in his little fist, that you're hooked for

I've learned.... That the less time I have to work with, the more things I get done

I've learned.... That everyone wants to live on top of the mountain, but all the happiness and growth occurs while you're climbing it.



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# Will Rogers Says



Will Rogers, who died in a 1935 plane crash in Alaska with bush pilot Wiley Post, was one of the greatest political country/cowboy sages this country has ever known. Some of his sayings:

- 1. Never slap a man who's chewing tobacco.
- 2. Never kick a cow chip on a hot day.
- 3. There are two theories to arguing with a woman. Neither works.
- 4. Never miss a good chance to shut up.
- 5. Always drink upstream from the herd.
- 6. If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging.
- 7. The quickest way to double your money is to fold it and put it back into your pocket.
- 8. There are three kinds of men:

The ones that learn by reading.

The few who learn by observation.

The rest of them have to grab the electric fence and find out for themselves.

- 9. Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.
- 10. If you're riding' ahead of the herd, take a look back every now and then to make sure it's still there.



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### HE ASKED HIS WIFE TO BURY HIM WITH ALL HIS MONEY; THIS IS WHAT SHE DID

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There was a man who had worked hard all of his life and saved all of his considerable fortune. He was a real miser when it came to his money. He loved money more than anything and his family suffered neglect as a result.

Just before he died, he said to his wife, "Listen carefully, when I die I want you to take all my money and place it in the casket with me. I want to take my entire fortune into the after life.

Reluctantly, his wife promised to fulfill his final wish and put all his money in the casket with him.

One day the old miser died. At his funeral he was stretched out in an expensive mahogany casket. His widow was dressed all in black and sat among her family and friends.

As the ceremony finished and the undertakers got ready to close the casket, the miser's wife rose and said, "Wait just a minute!"



She stepped forward and placed an ornate box into the casket. Then the undertakers closed the casket and rolled it away.

A friend sitting near her asked, "I hope you weren't foolish enough to put all his money in there with that old miser!"

She replied, "I promised him and I'm

a woman of my word."

"You mean to tell me you put every cent of his fortune in the casket with him?" her friend asked incredulously.

"Absolutely," said the wife. "I gathered all his funds from his many banks, deposited them in my account, ... and wrote him a check."



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### Pay Phone

A man decided to write a book about churches around the country. He started by flying to New York and began working west from there. Going to a very large church in Manhattan, he began taking photographs and making notes. He spotted a golden telephone near the entry and was intrigued with a sign which read "\$10,000 a minute."

Seeking out the pastor he asked about the phone. The pastor answered that this golden phone is, in fact, a direct line to Heaven and if he paid the price he could talk directly to God.

The man thanked the pastor and continued on his way. As he continued to visit churches in Chicago, Kansas City, Denver and Salt Lake City, he found more phones, with the same sign, and got the same answer from each pastor..

Finally, he arrived in Idaho. Upon entering a church in Boise, he saw the usual golden telephone. But to his amazement, THIS time, the sign read "Calls: 25 cents."

Fascinated, he asked to talk to the pastor. "Reverend, I have been in cities all across the country and in each church, I have found this golden telephone and have been told it is a direct line to Heaven and that I could talk to God, but, in the other churches the cost was \$10,000 a minute. Your sign reads 25 cents a call. Why?"

The pastor, smiling, replied, "Son, you're in Idaho now. This is God's country...it's a local call."



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### Old is When...

**Old is When...** your sweetie says "Let's go upstairs and make love," and you answer, "Honey, I can't do both"

**Old is When...** your friends compliment you on your new alligator shoes and you're barefoot.

**Old is When...** a cute chick walks by when you're sitting on the porch and your pacemaker opens the garage door.

**Old is When...** going braless pulls all of the wrinkles out of your face.

**Old is When...** you don't care if your wife goes shopping just as long as you don't have to go along.

**Old is When...** you are cautioned to slow down by your doctor instead of the police.

**Old is When...** "Getting a little action" means I don't need to take any fiber today.

**Old is When...** "Getting lucky" means you found your car in the parking lot.

**Old is When...** an "all-nighter" means you slept through the night without having to get up to go to the bathroom.

### **How to Avoid Mixing Your Metaphors**

It's not rocket surgery.
First, get all your ducks on the same page.
After all, you can't make an omelette
without breaking stride.

Be sure to watch what you write with a fine-tuned comb.
Check and re-check until the cows turn blue. It's as easy as falling off a piece of cake.

Don't worry about opening up a whole hill of beans: you can always burn that bridge when you come to it, if you follow where I'm coming from.

Concentrate! Keep your door closed and your enemies closer. Finally, don't take the moral high horse: if the metaphor fits, walk a mile in it.

Brian Bilston



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My daughter was born this morning. Another dad at the nursery congratulated me and said his son was born yesterday, and maybe they'll marry each other. Sure, like I'm going to let my daughter marry someone twice

her age!



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### **Father-Son Dialog**

**Son**: I feel like you're always making up rules and stuff.

Father: Like what?

**Son**: Like if I don't clean my room a hole will open up in the earth and swallow me.

**Father**: You mean like what happened to your older brother?

**Son**: What older brother?

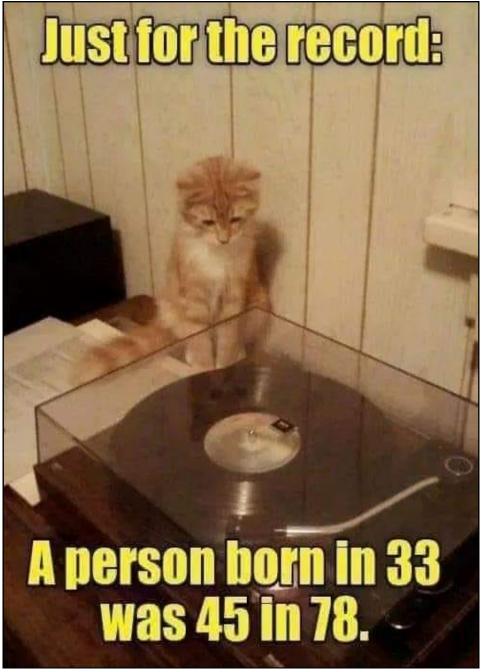
Father: Exactly!

# **Teacher-Student Interaction**

**Teacher:** Bonus points for using "had" in a sentence correctly.

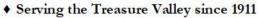
**Student**: The previous grade I had had had had no effect on this

assignment.









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## **Hit Songs for Biblical Figures**

What would be the favorite tunes of some of your most familiar Biblical figures? Here are some of our guesses:

Adam and Eve: "Strangers in Paradise"

Noah: "Raindrops Keep Falling on My

Head"

Methuselah: "Stayin' Alive" Jacob: "Stairway to Heaven" Moses: "I am a Wanderer"

Job: "I Guess That's Why They Call It the Blues"

Samson: "Gonna Wash That Man Right Out of My Hair"

Daniel: "The Lion Sleeps Tonight"

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego: "Great Balls of Fire"

Joshua: "Good Vibrations"

Jonah: "Got a Whale of a Tale"

Elijah: "Up, Up, and Away"

The Three Kings: "When You Wish Upon a Star"

Peter: "I'm Sorry"

Lazarus: "The Second Time Around"



### HARD CONVERSATIONS

SON: Dad, am I adopted? FATHER: Not yet, we're still looking for someone who'll take you.

HUSBAND TO WIFE: Do you

want kids? WIFE: No.

HUSBAND: Kids, we need to

talk.

WIFE HOLDING A NEWBORN:

I want another baby.

HUSBAND: That's a relief. I didn't like this one either!

FATHER: You're in trouble for

being lazy again. SON: But I didn't do anything!

When I was a kid, there were two ways to die: natural causes and talking back to your parents.



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### **Picture This**

Today I was asked by an elderly gentleman if I was any good with phones. He was trying to open a picture message that his granddaughter had sent.

After putting my daughter in her stroller, I took a look at his phone. It was a really old Nokia. Because it wasn't a smart phone I told him that he wouldn't be able to view it. He was devastated and went on to tell me that it was a photo of his granddaughter and her new baby who he hadn't seen yet as they live across the country.



So, I forwarded the message to my phone and eventually managed to open the picture. He was so emotional seeing his great granddaughter for the first time and you could see his love for them both through his teary eyes.

The man insisted on giving me \$20 to treat my daughter to a toy as a thank you for helping him. I insisted I didn't want it, but he was having none of it. So, I asked him to wait there. Then I went to Walgreens and printed the

photo for him and bought a frame for it too.

When I returned with the framed photo, he was so happy, literally overwhelmed.

This just made my day to make someone so happy.

Credit: Serena Mansey

## **Mostly True Statements**

- Flat Earthers have nothing to fear but sphere itself.
- 87% of gym members don't know it's been closed.
- Don't give up on your dreams. Just keep sleeping.
- Geology rocks but geography is where it's at.
- Dogs can't operate MRI scanners but cats can.
- Procrastination is the art of keeping up with yesterday.
- I used to think I was indecisive but now I'm not so sure.
- I just sold my homing pigeon on eBay for the 22nd time.
- Two silkworms were in a race. It ended in a tie.
- I went bald but still kept my comb. I just can't part with it.
- I just did a week's worth of cardio after walking into a spider web.
- I child proofed my house but the kids still manage to get in.
- Having a dog named Shark is a bad idea at the beach.
- All those who believe in psychokinesis raise my hand.
- My wife said I never listen to her, or



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### My Next Life

By George Carlin (1937-2008)

# I want to live my next life backwards:

You start out dead and get that out of the way.

Then you wake up in a nursing home feeling better every day.

Then you get kicked out for being too healthy. You enjoy your retirement and collect your pension.

Then you start work, you get a gold watch on your first day. You work 40 years until you're too young to work.

You have your high school graduation, go to prom, skip classes, get acne and play sports.

You head for elementary school, hide your report card from your parents, play tetherball at recess, kiss your first girlfriend, and learn your ABCs.

Then you become a baby, spend your last 9 months floating peacefully in spa-like conditions with central heating and room service.

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### The Penquin and the Fisherman

This is the heartwarming story of a penguin and a retired brick worker, who formed an unbreakable bond on a small island near Brazil's Rio de Janeiro. It all started in 2011 when the penquin was found covered in oil on the rocks of a beach. A 71-year-old man named Joao Pereira de Souza, an occasional fisherman and retired brick worker, came to the penguin's rescue.

With tender care and a lot of fish, Joao nursed the penguin back to health, washing off the sticky oil from its feathers. He named the penguin Dindim and tried to release it back into the sea after a week, but Dindim had other plans. The penguin refused to leave his side and stayed with Joao for 11 months.



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But, just as the penguin changed his coat with new feathers, it disappeared. Joao thought he'd never see Dindim again, but the penguin had a surprise in store. A few months later, Dindim returned to the island and even followed Joao back to his home.

"I love the penguin like it's my own child, and I believe the penguin loves me," Joao said with a smile. And so, the tradition began. Every year, Dindim swims back to the island to spend eight months with his rescuer and unlikely friend. A story of love, friendship, and the unbreakable bonds of the heart.



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### **Sunday Celebration**

I was told I should get as excited about church as I do about football.

I did that and was asked to leave.

Apparently dumping a bottle of Gatorade over the pastor after a rousing sermon isn't what they had in mind.

### Half Full or Half Empty?

My therapist set half a glass of water in front of me. Then she asked if I was an optimist or a pessimist.

So I drank the water and told her I was a problem solver.

#### Let's Clean House

I'm planning to start a meeting at my house for people with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder. I don't have OCD; I'm just

hoping they'll take one look at that mess and start cleaning!

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# **Milestones**



Mary Ellen Judy June 23, 1938—85 years Boise New Hope



Judy Otteman May 7, 1943—80 years Meridian Senior Center



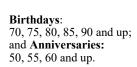
Kent Foster June 27, 1943—80 years Meridian 10 Mile Christian



Art Fuller June 12, 1948—75 years Kuna Senior Center



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Frank Thielen
June 26, 1948—75 years
Meridian 10 Mile Christian



David Dornbusch April 28, 1953—70 years Kuna Senior Center



Stan Ridgeway June 27, 1948—75 years Eagle Senior Center

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