

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

### You Could Have Heard a Pin Drop

JFK'S Secretary of State, Dean Rusk, was in France in the early 60's when French President DeGaulle decided to pull out of NATO. DeGaulle said he wanted all US military out of France as soon as possible. Rusk responded, "Does that include those who are buried here?"

DeGaulle did not respond. *You could have heard a pin drop.*



When in England, at a fairly large conference, Colin Powell was asked by the Archbishop of Canterbury if our plans for Iraq were just an example of "empire building" by George Bush.

He answered by saying, "Over the years, the United States has sent many of its fine young men and women into great peril to fight for freedom beyond our borders. The only amount of land we have ever asked for in return is enough to bury those that did not return."

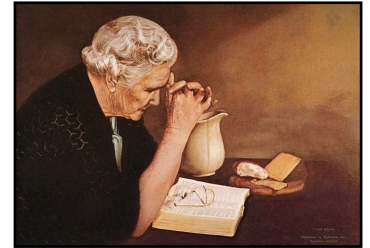
*You could have heard a pin drop.*

There was a conference in France where a number of international engineers were taking part, including French and American. During a break, One of the French engineers came back into the room saying, "Have you heard the latest dumb stunt Bush has done? He has sent an aircraft carrier to Indonesia to help the tsunami victims. What does he intend to do, bomb them?"

A Boeing engineer stood up and replied quietly: "Our carriers have three hospitals on board that can treat several hundred people; they have three cafeterias with the capacity to feed 3,000 people three meals a day, they can produce several thousand

*(Continued on page 2)*

### Things to Be Grateful For



1. Be awakened early = Children to love.
2. House to clean = Safe place to live
3. Laundry to be done = Clothes to wear
4. Grocery shopping = Enough \$ to live on
5. Dishes to wash = Food to eat.
6. Crumbs on the floor = Family meals together
7. Toilets to clean = Indoor plumbing
8. Lots of noise = People in my life
9. Endless questions = kids' brains are growing
10. Sore and tired in bed = I'm still alive!

Amen!

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### War Stories

My high school assignment was to ask a veteran about World War II. Since my father had served in the Philippines during the war, I chose him. After a few basic questions, I very gingerly asked, "Did you ever kill anyone?"

Dad got quiet. Then, in a soft voice, he said, "Probably. I was the cook."

*Marian Babula, Pennsylvania*

The steaming jungles of Vietnam were not my husband's first choice of places to spend his 21st birthday.

However, the mood was brightened when he received a birthday cake from his sister. It was carefully encased in a Tupperware container and came with this note: "Dick, when you're finished, can you mail back my container?"

*Kathy Wilson, Minnesota*

When a soldier came to the clinic where I work for an MRI, he was put into the machine by an attractive, young technician.

Sometime later, when the examination was over, he was helped out of the machine by a far older woman. The soldier remarked, "How long was I in there for?"

*Joanne Korman, Nova Scotia*

### You Could Have Heard a Pin Drop *(Continued from page 1)*

gallons of fresh water from sea water each day, and they carry half a dozen helicopters for use in transporting victims and injured to and from their flight deck. We have eleven such ships. How many does France have?"

*You could have heard a pin drop.*

A U.S. Navy admiral was attending a naval conference that included admirals from the U.S., English, Canadian, Australian and French navies at a cocktail reception. He found himself standing with a large group of officers that included personnel from most of those countries. Everyone was chatting away in English as they sipped their drinks when a French admiral suddenly complained that, whereas Europeans learn many languages, Americans learn only English.

He then asked, "Why is it that we always have to speak English in these conferences rather than speaking French?"

Without hesitating, the American admiral replied, "Maybe it's because the Brit's, Canadians, Aussie's and Americans arranged it so you wouldn't have to speak German."

*You could have heard a pin drop.*

Robert Whiting, an elderly gentleman of 89, arrived in Paris by plane. At French customs, he took a few minutes to locate his passport in his carry-on. "You have been to France before, monsieur?" the customs officer asked sarcastically. Mr. Whiting admitted that he had been to France previously.

"Then you should know enough to have your passport ready."

The American said, "The last time I was here, I didn't have to show it."

"Impossible. Americans always have to show their passports on arrival in France!"

The American senior gave the Frenchman a long hard look. Then he quietly explained, "Well, when I came ashore at Omaha Beach on D-Day in 1944 to help liberate this country, I couldn't find a single Frenchmen to show a passport to."

*You could have heard a pin drop.*

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### Don't Get Up

- ◆ If walking is good for your health, the mailman is going to live forever.
- ◆ A whale swims all day, only eats fish, only drinks water, and is still fat.
- ◆ A rabbit only eats vegetables, runs and hops all day long, but only lives five years at the most.
- ◆ A tortoise doesn't run and does nothing energetic, yet it lives for 450 years!

And you tell me to exercise?!  
I don't think so!



## REMEMBER

*And I'm proud to be an American, Where at least I know I'm free. And I won't forget the men who died, Who gave that right to me.*  
~ Lee Greenwood

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For some crazy reason these words don't rhyme.  
**But pony and bologna do!**

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# On the Day I Die

By John Pavlovitz



On the day I die a lot will happen.

A lot will change. The world will be busy.

On the day I die, all the important appointments I made will be left unattended. The many plans I had yet to complete will remain forever undone. The calendar that ruled so many of my days will now be irrelevant to me.

All the material things I so chased and guarded and treasured will be left in the hands of others to care for or to discard.

The words of my critics which so burdened me will cease to sting or capture anymore. They will be unable to touch me.

The arguments I believed I'd won here will not serve me or bring me any satisfaction or solace.

All my noisy incoming notifications and texts and calls will go unanswered. Their great urgency will be quieted.

My many nagging regrets will all be resigned to the

past, where they should have always been anyway.

Every superficial worry about my body that I ever labored over; about my waistline or hairline or frown lines, will fade away.

My carefully crafted image, the one I worked so hard to shape for others here, will be left to them to complete anyway.

The sterling reputation I once struggled so greatly to maintain will be of little concern for me anymore.

All the small and large anxieties that stole sleep from me each night will be rendered powerless.

The deep and towering mysteries about life and death that so consumed my mind will finally be clarified in a way that they could never be before while I lived.

These things will certainly all be true on the day that I die.

Yet for as much as will happen on that day, one more thing that will happen.

On the day I die, the few people who really know and truly love me will grieve deeply.

They will feel a void. They will feel cheated. They will not feel ready. They will feel as though a part of them has died as well.

And on that day, more than anything in the world they will want more time with me.

I know this from those I love and grieve over.

And so knowing this, while I *am* still alive I'll try to remember that my time with them is finite and fleeting and so very precious—and I'll do my best not to waste a second of it.

I'll try not to squander a priceless moment worrying about all the other things that will happen on the day I die, because many of those things are either not my concern or beyond my control.

Friends, those other things have an insidious way of keeping you from living even as you live; vying for your attention, competing for your affections.

They rob you of the joy of this unrepeatable, uncontainable, ever-evaporating Now with those who love you and want only to share it with you.

Don't miss the chance to dance with them while you can.

It's easy to waste so much daylight in the days before you die.

Don't let your life be stolen every day, by all that you've been led to believe matters, because on the day you die—the fact is that much of it simply won't.

Yes, you and I will die one day.

But before that day comes: *let us live.*

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**Anybody who can still do at 65 what they were doing when they were 25, wasn't doing much at 25.**

**Backside of mom's gravestone. Everytime someone asked for her cookie recipe, she said, "Over my dead body!"**



**Mom's Christmas Cookies**

Cream: 1 cup sugar  
1/2 cup oleo  
Add: 2 beaten eggs  
1 tsp. vanilla  
Add: 3 cups flour  
3 tsp. baking powder  
1 tsp. salt  
Add alternately with 1 cup cream.  
Chill and roll out with flour.  
Bake 350 degrees oven, and frost.



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## Milestones



Royal Jones  
Nov 14, 1922—97 years  
Nampa Sunnyridge



D E Hill  
Nov 5, 1923—96 years  
Nampa Karcher Estates



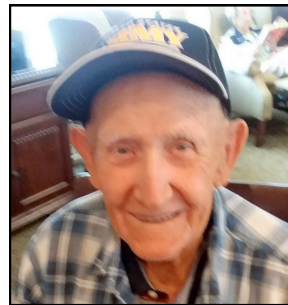
Ken Hestead  
Nov 19, 1923—96 years  
Caldwell Autumn Wind



Alice Coiteux  
Nov 17, 1924—95 years  
Nampa Sunnyridge



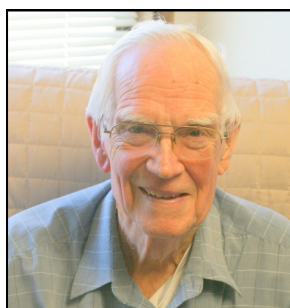
Ethel Tackett  
Nov 3, 1926—93 years  
Nampa Park Place



William Rodgers  
Nov 17, 1926—93 years  
Caldwell Autumn Wind



Florence Hopkins  
Nov 14, 1927—92 years  
Caldwell Autumn Wind



Robert Mordhorst  
Nov 26, 1927—92 years  
Nampa Sunnyridge



Phil & Sandy Small  
Sept 25, 1954—65 years  
Caldwell Senior Center

## By the Roots

There was an old man who lived by a forest. As he grew older, he started losing his hair, until one day—on his deathbed—he was completely bald.

That day he called his children to his bedside.

He said, “Look at my hair. It used to be so magnificent, but it’s completely gone now. My hair can’t be saved. But look outside at the forest. It’s such a lovely forest with so many trees, but sooner or later they’ll all be cut down and this forest will look as bald as my hair.”

“What I want to do,” he continued, “is this: every time a tree is cut down or dies, plant a new one in my memory. Tell your children and grandchildren to do the same. It shall be our family’s duty to keep this forest strong,”

So they did. Each time the forest lost a tree, the children replanted one, and so did their children, and their children after them.

And for centuries, the forest remained as lush and pretty as it once was, all because of one man and his re-seeding heir-line.



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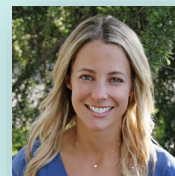
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## Hurricane Procedures

Hurricanes are nothing to be laughed at, but in Florida they are so common you have to retain your sense of humor. Here are one company's guidelines;

### Category 1 Hurricane

No excuse for being late. Leave early to avoid fallen trees.

### Category 2 Hurricane

Due to the horizontal rain, you can dress casual for the day.

### Category 3 Hurricane

Whereas most of the area will be flooded, we suggest you avoid wearing open-toe sandals when coming to work. Canoes or kayaks will be provided in the parking lot to help get into the building safely.

### Category 4 Hurricane

More than likely there will be no electricity. Office personnel will be given manual typewriters and rotary dial phones. If you choose to wear make-up, use waterproof.

### Category 5 Hurricane

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## You'll Need to Make an Appointment



After 58 years of marriage, a husband and wife came to see a therapist. When asked what the problem was, the wife went into a tirade listing every problem they had ever had in the years they had been married.

On and on she went: neglect, lack of intimacy, emptiness, loneliness, feeling unloved and unlovable, an entire laundry list of unmet needs she had endured.

Finally, after allowing this for a sufficient length of time, the therapist got up, walked around the desk and after asking the wife to stand, he embraced and kissed her long and passionately as her husband watched - with a raised eyebrow.

The woman quietly sat down as though in a daze.

The therapist turned to the husband and said, "This is what your wife needs at least three times a week. Can you do this?"

"Well, I can drop her off here on Mondays and Wednesdays, but on Fridays, I go fishing."

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*To forgive is to set a prisoner free  
and discover the prisoner was you.*

### Sobriety Test

An Idaho State Troop trooper pulled a car over on I-80. When the trooper asked the driver why he was speeding, the driver said he was a magician and juggler and was on his way to Boise to do a show for the Children's Hospital. He didn't want to be late.

The trooper told the driver he was fascinated by juggling and said if the driver would do a little juggling for him then he wouldn't give him a ticket. He told the trooper he had sent his equipment ahead and didn't have anything to juggle.

The trooper said he had some flares in the trunk and asked if he could juggle them. The juggler said he could, so the trooper got five flares, lit them and handed them to him.

While the man was juggling, a car pulled in behind the state trooper's car. A drunken good old boy from Ola got out, watched the performance, then went over to the trooper's car, opened the rear door and got in. The trooper observed him and went over to his car, opened the door asking the drunk what he thought he was doing.

The drunk replied, "You might as well take me to jail, cause there ain't no way I can pass that test."

**A wise old man once told his son,  
" My boy, when you gain the understanding to know why pizza is made round, put in a square box to be eaten in triangles, then and only then will you be able to understand women!**

### Milestones



Dixie Steen  
Nov 29, 1927—92 years  
Melba Valley Senior Center



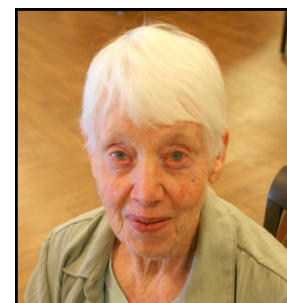
Cassie Knudsen  
Oct 31, 1928—91 years  
Nampa Senior Center



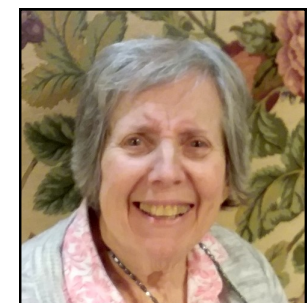
Betty Hopkins  
Nov 6, 1928—91 years  
Parma



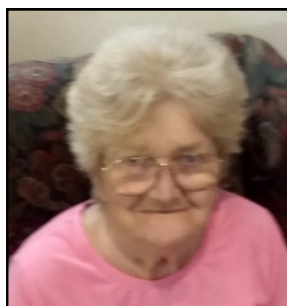
Pearl Ahnstedt  
Nov 14, 1934—85 years  
Caldwell Senior Center



Carlene Laub  
Nov 23, 1934—85 years  
Nampa Sunnyridge



Sherrill Weeks  
Nov 13, 1939—80 years  
Caldwell Autumn Wind

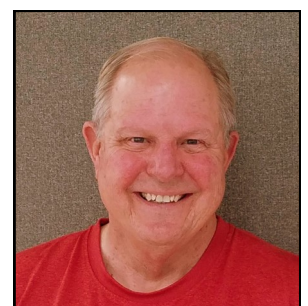


Patricia Cadmus  
Nov 2, 1944—75 years  
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Dale Chastain  
Oct 31, 1949—70 years  
Nampa Senior Center



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