

SENIOR Goldmine

Canyon County Edition

February 2021



Nuggets of Fun and Nostalgia for Treasure Valley Golden-Agers

Canon in D with a Side of Tomato Soup

By Rachel Printy

Paul stared at his wife across the table, noticing for the first time that her sweater was on inside out. Every morning he would lay out her clothes on the bed in a specific order, so she'd know which item to put on first. But it didn't guarantee *how* Elaine would put on each piece. He'd have to pay more attention before they went out.

Their usual waitress, Sarah, appeared, holding a large tray with two sweet teas on it. "How y'all doin' today?"

With Alzheimer's disease, there were good days, and then there were challenging days. It was one of the latter. Elaine was preoccupied, scrubbing a stain on the wooden table with her finger, forgetting it was a permanent fixture of their booth. They'd been lunching at this diner once a week for years. That blemish had been there since day one.

"Today's actually a very special day for us. It's our 57th wedding anniversary." His wife stopped fidgeting and looked up. "The day she took a chance on a broke, balding fellow by saying, 'I do,'" he said with a wink in her direction.

"It is?" Elaine asked.

"Yep, sweetheart, it is."

"Congratulations, you two! Ms. Sue fixed up some of her key lime pie today and I'll make sure y'all have a slice on the house before you go. Stickin' with the Cobb salad and tomato soup?"

"That's it." Paul replied.

She nodded and turned, then swung back around. "I just remembered. We ran out of tomato soup about an hour ago. Chicken noodle ok?"

Paul looked at his wife, now scrubbing away at the stain with a napkin. "Elaine?"

"Hmmm," she said, again focused on the table.

"They're out of the tomato soup. Do you want chicken noodle? Or a sandwich instead?" She looked confused, so he pointed to the menu and showed her a few other items he thought she'd enjoy, but she was having a hard time picking something new.



(Continued on page 2)

Taking Off in 2021

Welcome aboard Flight 2021. I am your flight attendant, and we are preparing for take off into the New Year.

Please make sure that your attitude and blessings are secured and locked in upright position. All self-destructive devices should be turned off at this time.

All negativity, and discouragement should be stored in the overhead compartments. We have removed the excess baggage that has been flying with us on Flight 2020 and are hopeful that our flight to our future destinations will be a smooth one.

Should we lose altitude under pressure during our flight, please reach up and pull down a prayer. Prayers will automatically be activated by faith. Once your faith is activated you can assist other passengers.

Remember.... there is no return policy on time, so make every mile count! The new year offers you 365 blank pages, so write the most beautiful chapter of your life!

Wishing you great health, happiness, and success in 2021!

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Short-lived Fame

A man was sent to prison for 20 years. He was so bored while in there, so he found an ant and decided to teach it tricks - like beg, play dead, roll over, jump over a hair, etc.



He served his time and was released, taking his ant with him in a matchbox. The first place he went was to a diner for a god meal. He sat down, took out the matchbox and emptied out the ant.

He then said to the guy beside him, "You are not gonna believe what this ant can do."

He showed him all the tricks and the guy was very impressed. He told him that he could make a fortune with the ant.

The guy being shown the ant was excited and called the server over and said, "You see that ant?"

The server put his finger on the ant, twisted it and said, "Sorry sir it won't happen again."

Canon in D with a Side of Tomato Soup (Continued from page 1)

Suddenly she began to cry. "I want to go home. Please can we go home?" she begged.

"Honey, Sarah has already brought us our drinks. Don't you think we should stay a little longer? I know you like tomato soup, but I'm sure their chicken noodle is delicious."

That only made her cry harder. Sarah apologized on behalf of the restaurant for running out. Other customers glanced in their direction, wondering what all the commotion was about.

He sighed and reached back for his wallet, then placed a ten-dollar bill on the table. "I'm sorry. We'll catch you next week."

Sarah gave him an understanding look and told him she'd bring the pie and some to-go cups of tea out to their car. He thanked her as he rose to help his wife out of the booth. He always tried to make their days as hiccup-free as possible, but sometimes, there just wasn't any tomato soup.

Elaine stopped crying on the way home but appeared anxious, and kept asking him what day it was. He hesitated to say the date, conjecturing that at least part of her current emotional state was because she hadn't realized it was their anniversary. With her dementia he didn't think a thing of it, but worried she might become upset with herself.

"Today is Wednesday."

She furrowed her brow, a tell-tale sign she was struggling to grasp some distant memory or word. When she asked what day it was for the third time during their twenty-minute drive, he gave in. "It's Wednesday, January 7th."

"That's the day we got married!"

"Yes, it is," he said, pulling up into their driveway.

He helped his wife sit on the living room couch before setting up two dinner trays and turning the TV to a re-run of *The Price is Right*.

"I'll be right back to join you," he reassured her.



Once in the kitchen, he walked past the cabinets labeled *bowls/plates, mugs/glasses, and cereal* to find the one with *soup* written on it. He'd marked them all to help her stay as independent as possible, especially since she loved to cook. In the past few months, however, he'd taken over the role as primary chef.

(Continued on Page 7)

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The world is getting too sensitive. Pretty soon I won't be able to make fun of myself without someone getting offended.

I Remember

I remember the corned beef of my childhood,
And the bread that we cut with a knife,
When the children all helped with the housework,
And the men went to work, not the wife.

The cheese never needed a fridge,
And the bread was so crusty and hot.
The children were seldom unhappy,
And the wife was content with her lot.

I remember the milk from the bottle,
With the yummy cream on the top.
Our dinner came hot from the oven,
And not from a freezer or shop.

The kids were a lot more contented,
They didn't need money for kicks;
Just a game with their friends in the roaqd,
And sometimes the Saturday flicks.

I remember the slap on my backside,
And the taste of soap if I swore.
Anorexia and diets weren't heard of
And we hadn't much choice what we wore.

Do you think that bruised our ego?
Or our initiative was destroyed?
We ate what was put on the table
And I think life was better enjoyed.

Author Unknown

Old People

- Old people are easy to spot at sporting events. They remove their caps and stand at attention during the National Anthem. They know the words and believe them.
- Old people remember World War II, Pearl Harbor, Guadalcanal, and Normandy.
- Old people remember the Hiroshima, the Korean War, the Cold War, the Berlin Wall, and the Moon Landing.
- If you bump into an Old Person on the sidewalk, he will apologize. If you pass an Old Person on the street, he will nod or tip his cap to a lady. Old people hold the door for the next person and always, when walking, make certain the lady is on the inside for protection.
- Old People get embarrassed if someone curses in front of women and children; they don't like any filth or dirty language on TV or in the movies.
- Old People know our country is protected by the men and women in military service, not by politicians.
- This country needs Old People with their work ethic, sense of responsibility, pride in their country and decent values.

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Have you ever listened to some folks for a minute or two and thought, "Their cornbread ain't done in the middle!"

And On the First Day...

On the first day, God created the dog and said, "Sit all day by the door of your house and bark at anyone who comes in or walks past. For this, I will give you a life span of twenty years."

The dog said, "That's a long time to be barking. How about only ten years and I'll give you back the other ten?"

And God saw it was good.

On the second day, God created the monkey and said, "Entertain people, do tricks, and make them laugh. For this, I'll give you a twenty-year life span."

The monkey said, "Monkey tricks for twenty years? That's a pretty long time to perform. How about I give you back ten like the dog?"

And God, again saw it was good.

On the third day, God created the cow and said, "You must go into the field with the farmer all day long and suffer under the sun, have calves and give milk to support the farmer's family. For this, I will give you a life span of sixty years."

The cow said, "That's kind of a tough life you want me to live for sixty years. How about twenty and I'll give back the other forty?"

And God agreed it was good.

On the fourth day, God created humans and said, "Eat, sleep, play, marry and enjoy your life. For this, I'll give you twenty years."

But the human said, "Only twenty years? Could you possibly give me my twenty, the forty the cow gave back, the ten the monkey gave back, and the ten the dog gave back; that makes eighty, okay?"

"Okay," said God, "You asked for it."

So that is why for our first twenty years, we eat, sleep, play and enjoy ourselves. For the next forty years, we slave in the sun to support our family. For the next ten years, we do monkey tricks to entertain the grandchildren. And for the last ten years, we sit on the front porch and bark at everyone.

Life has now been explained to you. There is no need to thank me for this valuable information. I'm doing it as a public service.

If you are looking for me I will be on the front porch...



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 friend compliments you on your new alligator shoes and you're barefoot.

"Old" is when... A cute young thing catches your fancy and your pacemaker opens the garage door.

"Old" is when... You don't care where your spouse goes, just as long as you don't have to go along.

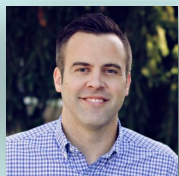
"Old" is when... "Getting a little action" means I don't need to take any fiber today.

"Old" is when... "Getting lucky" means you find your car in the parking lot.

"Old" is when... An "all-nighter" means not getting up to go to the bathroom.



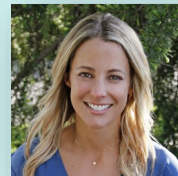
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The Job Interview

Three guys go in for a job interview.

The first guy goes in and kills it, best job interview he's ever done in his life.

End of the interview comes around, the interviewer says: "By the way, do you notice anything strange about me?"

"Yeah," says the guy... "You don't have any EARS, man!"

"I'm sorry," says the interviewer, "but I'm very sensitive about my ears, I'm afraid you're not the right person for this job, get out of my office!"

The second guy goes in, it's the same thing, he is doing amazing, best job interview ever. Talks his way into \$20K a year more than the advertised salary.

End of the interview comes around, the interviewer says: "By the way, do you notice anything strange about me?"

"Yeah," says the guy... "You don't have any EARS, man!"

"I'm sorry," says the interviewer, "but I'm very sensitive about my ears, I'm afraid you're not the right person for this job, get out of my office!"

So the third guy's about to go in, but the first and second guy stop him and warn him, "Hey, I don't care how good you're doing, how comfortable you feel, don't say ANYTHING about his ears, he'll throw you right out!"

So the third guy goes in. Again, same thing, an AMAZING interview.

End of the interview comes around, the interviewer says: "By the way, do you notice anything strange about me?"

Third guy looks real close, squints his eyes a bit and says "Yeah. You wear contact lenses, don't you?"

"WOW!" says the interviewer, "That is REALLY perceptive of you! How did you know?"

"Well...", says guy three. "You sure as shootin' couldn't wear glasses!"



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Milestones



Frann Richardson
Feb 20, 1918—103 years
Nampa Park Place



Peggy Nelson
Feb 29, 1920—101 years
Nampa



Ruby Gray
Feb 24, 1925—96 years
Nampa Park Place



Afton Wilde
Feb 5, 1929—92 yrs
Nampa Bethel Nazarene



Mae Howell
Feb 27, 1929—92 years
Caldwell Senior Center

Tidbits

BOSS TO EMPLOYEE:

“Do you believe in life after death?”

EMPLOYEE:

“I certainly don’t. There’s no proof of it!”

BOSS:

“Well there is now. After you left early yesterday to go to your uncle’s funeral, he came here looking for you!”

WARNING:

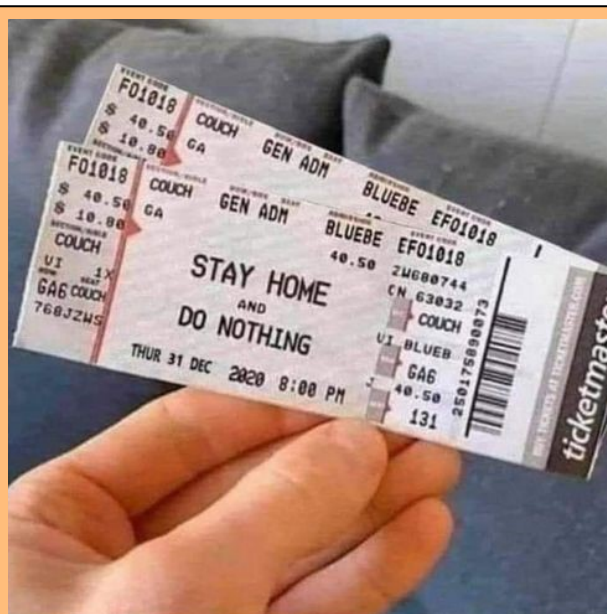
Do NOT let them take your temperature when going into the grocery store. IT’S A SCAM! They are erasing your memory!

Yesterday I went there to pick up bread, milk and eggs, and I came home with Doritos, three Snicker’s bars, and a pint of Ben and Jerry’s ice cream!

TODAY’S TIP:

You can tell a lot about a woman by her hands. For example, if they’re around your throat, she’s probably upset.

We got our tickets for tonight’s big event!



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Think About It!

Chocolate is vital for survival. The dinosaurs didn't have chocolate and look what happened to them!

My wife asked for some peace and quiet while she cooked dinner. So I took the battery out of the smoke alarm.

I heard someone was stealing wheels off of police cars. The cops are working tirelessly to catch them.

I decided to sell my old Hoover vacuum cleaner. It was just collecting dust.

I quit wearing headphones and listening to music while vacuuming anymore. I just vacuumed the whole house before I realized it wasn't plugged in!

If you wear glasses and are required to wear a mask at work, you may be entitled to condensation.

If your car could travel at the speed of light, would your headlights work?

I read a book on anti-gravity.
It was so good
I couldn't put it down.



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Canon in D with a Side of Tomato Soup (Continued from Page 2)

Relief swept over him when he found some tomato soup in the back-right corner of the cabinet.

Conscious of his stiff, arthritic hands, he carefully lowered two bowls and filled them with the liquid contents before putting Elaine's dish in the microwave. As he stood there watching the timer count down, the sound of Pachelbel floated into the kitchen.

His wife had been a music teacher, so they'd always had a piano in the living room. She hadn't played much lately, though. He suspected it was because she now had difficulty sight-reading the music.

Walking back into the room, he found Elaine bent over the piano playing *Canon in D* from muscle memory. He was struck at how her fingers, still so capable and sure, glided over the keys.

An image of her coming down the aisle towards him in a stunning white dress filled his head, those same lovely hands holding a bouquet of the yellow daisies he'd gathered for her from his garden. It had been a simple wedding, but that's what they'd wanted.

He waited until she'd finished before taking a seat beside her on the bench. Bringing the back of her hand to his mouth, he planted a kiss as she beamed the same beautiful grin she had on their wedding day.

"My favorite song," he whispered, choking up. She gave his hand a gentle squeeze. "That's why I played it for you." Now it was his turn to cry.

"I love you, Paul."

"I can see that." He nodded. "I love you so much. Now how would you like to share some tomato soup with me?"

Her face fell a little. "I was hoping for chicken noodle, but that'll do."

* * *



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Really Bad Analogies Written by High School Students

"Her eyes were like two brown circles with big black dots in the center."

"John and Mary had never met. They were like two hummingbirds who had also never met."

"She had a deep, throaty, genuine laugh, like that sound a dog makes just before it throws up."

"He was as tall as a 6'3" tree"

"He was lame as a duck. Not the metaphorical lame duck, either, but a real duck that was actually lame. Maybe from stepping on a land mine or something."

"Her face was a perfect oval, like a circle that had its two side gently compressed by a vice."

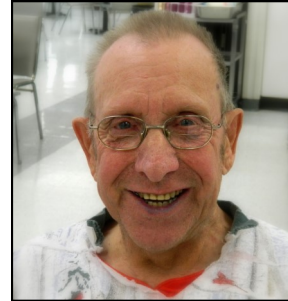
"From the attic came an unearthly howl. The whole scene had an eerie quality, like when you're on vacation in another city and Wheel of Fortune comes on at 6:00 p.m. instead of 7:00."

"The revelation that his marriage of 30 years had disintegrated came as a rude shock, like a surcharge at a formerly surcharge-free ATM."

Milestones



Jon Cornell
Feb 8, 1941—80 years
Caldwell Senior Center



Leroy Strey
Feb 17, 1941—80 years
Nampa Senior Center



Jean Whipple
Feb 19, 1946—75 years
Caldwell Senior Center

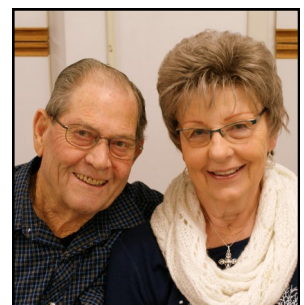


Grant Eason
Feb 19, 1936—85 years
Nampa Senior Center

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Grant & Donna Eason
Feb 18, 1956—65 years
Nampa Senior Center

Sending the Wrong Message

On opening his new store, a man received a bouquet of flowers. He became dismayed on reading the enclosed card, that it expressed "Deepest Sympathy." While puzzling over the message, his telephone rang. It was the florist, apologizing for having sent the wrong card.

"Oh, it's alright, said the storekeeper. I'm a businessman and I understand how these things can happen."

"But, added the florist, I accidentally sent your card to a funeral party."

"Well, what did it say?" asked the storekeeper.

"Congratulations on your new location!" was the reply.

A Really Good Question!

A father was reading Bible stories to his young son. He read, "The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt."

His son asked, "What happened to the flea?"

WHAT I IF TOLD
YOU
YOU READ THE TOP
LINE WRONG