



Golden Agers Rock!

CELEBRATING SENIORS MAKING THE BEST OF THE REST OF THEIR LIVES

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Welcome to Fall Foliage Week

Have you ever driven up to the mountains for the sole purpose of looking at the leaves? My grand-parents & their best friends used to do it every fall about this time. MeMa would pack the picnic basket (one of my most prized possessions—still lined with her aluminum foil to prevent leaks) and a cooler with ice for the sweet tea (is there really any other kind) and they would head north—husbands in the front, wives in the back. They didn't always have a plan for where they would stop first, but about five miles into the trip PePa could be heard asking, "Beatrice, what did you bring to eat?" Knowing him like she did, she always had a few cookies, or some muffins rescued from a mid-morning snack, that had magically found their way into her purse thus making a stop to dig through the basket in the trunk unnecessary. These four loved their trips together.

A tale from one such trip has always stuck with me. They were in New England and had stopped for gas.

This was back when the bell rang and someone came out to pump gas for you. PePa had already exited the car and had pulled down the rear license plate to loosen the gas cap before lighting his cigarette. I can still see him standing with his right foot on the rear bumper as he smoked since smoking in the car was strictly forbidden. (He was a wonderful, intelligent man, but smoking at the gas pumps really doesn't seem like a bright move.) The man came out, a little miffed at the repeated interruptions to his day, and began pumping the gasoline. They chatted about this & that—PePa had the "gift of gab" & could talk to anyone—and the proprietor began to complain about all these "tourists just coming to look at those #*@! leaves." I'm not sure what PePa told him about the nature of their trip, but he told me he wasn't about to admit why they were in the area & then he made sure the man never caught a glimpse of the Alabama license plate after refueling was complete.

PePa's stories were legendary with his grandkids! He was born on July 4th and so, every year, after a wonderful family cookout complete with homemade ice cream, he took us to Point Mallard for the big fireworks display and reminded us that this show was the culmination of his birthday celebration. I'm not sure how old I was before I knew the truth.

While driving from Decatur to Moulton to visit his mother, we passed lots of farms. I remember one trip while discussing cows, he told us that white cows give white milk, & black cows give chocolate milk. We asked about the brown & white cows and, with a twinkle in his eye, we were quickly told, "why, they give orange juice, of course." Because PePa said it, it **must** be true, so that's what our kids were told as well. Family. They're the best.

Now on to the "important" stuff...

Before we move on to October (which, believe it or not, comes next week), we have to finish the September Celebrations.

The 5th week of September is:

- Banned Books Week
 - National Fall Foliage Week
 - Sea Otter Week
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- Some fun only lasts a day.
 - 29th**-International Coffee Day
 - National Biscotti Day
 - VFW Day
 - World Heart Day
 - 30th**-International Podcast Day
 - Ask a Stupid Question Day
 - National Love People Day
 - National Mulled Cider Day
 - Wrigley Chewing Gum Day
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- ### **October is:**
- American Cheese Month
 - Apple Month
 - Bat Appreciation Month
 - Caffeine Addict Recovery Month
 - Church Library Month
 - Corn Month
 - Improve Your Home Month
 - Eat Country Ham Month
 - Learn to Bowl Month
 - Bake & Decorate Month
 - National Caramel Month
 - National Chili Month
 - National Cookbook Month
 - Popcorn Poppin' Month
 - National Roller Skating Month
 - National Seafood Month
 - Stamp Collecting Month
 - Toilet Tank Repair Month
 - National Pizza Month
 - Photographer Month
 - Positive Attitude Month
 - Polish American Heritage Month
 - Sausage Month
 - Spinach Lovers Month
 - Squirrel Awareness Month
 - Vegetarian Month

The 1st week of October is:

- Walk Your Dog Week
- Universal Children's Week
- National Storytelling Week
- World Goat Week

Some fun only lasts a day.

1st-Bring Your Bible to School Day

CD Player Day

Coffee Day

International Music Day

Model T Day

National Black Dog Day

National Book It! Day

Eat Fruit At Work Day

National Hair Day

National Lace Day

National Walk Your Dog Day

Willy Wonka Day

World Vegetarian Day

2nd-Guardian Angels Day

Kids Music Day

National Denim Day

Manufacturing Day

Body Language Day

Name Your Car Day

World Farm Animals Day

Have a great week & call if you need anything!

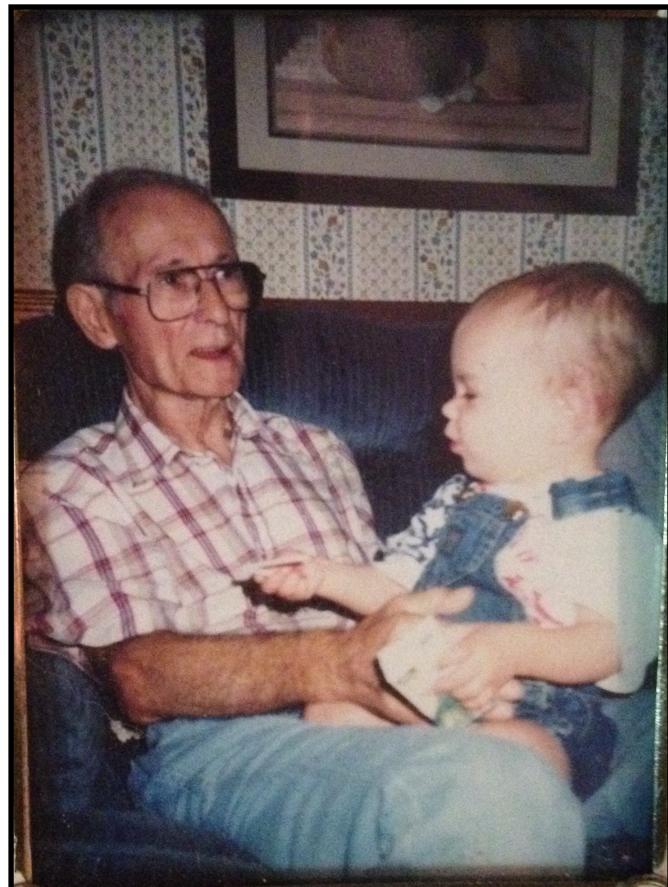
Serving Him & Loving it!

Carol 😊

Pastor Bill 901-569-1428

Pastor Cassie 678-492-3956

Carol 803-360-7137



Our middle child, Kathryn (the newlywed), with PePa in 1991—two months before he died of lung cancer at the age of 71. I was seven months pregnant with our 3rd child & sang at his funeral.

WEEKLY GIGGLES

