



GOLDEN AGERS

Celebrating Seniors, Enjoying Life & Laughter



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Apple Butter Days Are Here

Our oldest daughter makes fabulous apple butter! (I know some of you do as well.) She started making it while she was in college. I would like to take credit for teaching her, but I had very little to do with her cooking abilities.

Elizabeth is a FABULOUS cook! Yes, she makes great jams & jellies but she also cooks lamb that will absolutely melt in your mouth! I suppose the fact that her first word was “hot” should have been a clue. She spent her first year of life at the elbow of one of the best cooks I know—her NaNa.

Carolyn was a stay-at-home mom whose last child had gone off to college & she was looking for something to fill her days. I was a new mom who was anxious about leaving my precious baby with strangers. A mutual friend suggested I call her. My mom knew the family and I trusted this friend completely, so I made the call. Carolyn explained that she had never kept someone else’s child before, but she would try it for two weeks & let me know. I’m still waiting to hear.

To say that Elizabeth was well kept was quite the understatement! This was one spoiled child. Who wouldn’t love being at

NaNa’s house? She was rocked to sleep instead of just being put down for a nap. She lacked for nothing in the way of attention and love. Carolyn’s husband, Linwood, became like a 2nd grandpa and she called him “DaDa” long before calling her own dad that.

When Elizabeth got sick one weekend, I called Carolyn to see if I needed to stay home with her instead of teaching that Monday. I was told, “you bring that baby over here & if all she wants to do is rock, then that’s what we’ll do.” I could not have asked for a better caregiver!

When overwhelmed at her 1st birthday party, Elizabeth didn’t run to me, or her daddy, she ran to Carolyn who was always there for her. One of her other grandmas got upset by this & asked why I wasn’t bothered. I tried to carefully explain that knowing that my child was spending her days with someone who loved her as much as I did, was a gift from God & I was thankful for it!

Sometimes we don’t recognize the little things we do in someone’s life that are actually the big things. Carolyn calls me her child’s “birth mother” & I’m okay with that as well. Those two have a bond

that goes far beyond baby & baby sitter. They each filled a deep need in the other's life—one that I could never imagine they would still be filling today.

Yes, my children had *three* sets of grand parents growing up—unusual for kids that don't come from a broken home. A teacher once asked my son about the relationship since the last names didn't match. He described Carolyn as the "assistant grandma". Not a bad title!

NaNa is in her 80s & Elizabeth is in her 30s & these two still talk several times a week on the phone & even though they live several states apart, they visit as much as possible. They are both *still* filling an important need in each other's lives. And we are still blessed.

Now onto important stuff!

The week of 8-14 is:

- Fire Prevention Week
- International Post Card Week
- 4-H Week
- Great Books Week
- Mystery Series Week
- Spinning & Weaving Week
- Apple Butter Days***

Some celebrations only last a day:

- 8th-** Clergy Appreciation Day
- International Face Your Fears Day
- Microwave Oven Day
- National Salmon Day
- 9th-** Emergency Nurses Day
- International Beer & Pizza Day
- Leif Erikson Day
- National Moldy Cheese Day
- World Post Card Day

- 10th-**Hug A Drummer Day
- Newspaper Carrier Day
- Cake Decorating Day
- National Handbag Day
- Naval Academy Day
- National Angel Food Cake Day

- 11th-**International Day of the Girl Child
- National Family Bowling Day
- National Sausage Pizza Day
- Southern Food Heritage Day
- World Egg Day

- 12th-**Drink Local Wine Day
- Harry Potter Day
- I Love Yarn Day
- National Gumbo Day
- Moment of Frustration Scream Day
- African Penguin Awareness Day
- National Farmer's Day
- Universal Music Day
- World Porridge Day

- 13th-**English Language Day
- National No Bra Day
- Yorkshire Pudding Day
- Silly Sayings Day

- 14th-**Be Bald & Free Day
- Spider-Man Day
- National Real Sugar Day
- National Kick Butt Day
- National Dessert Day
- National Costume Swap Day

Have a great week & call me if you need a ride to church!

Serving Him & Loving it!

Carol 🥰

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Q: How many apples can you grow on a tree?

A: All of them.