

## Genealogical Funnies and Facts

“What is past is prologue.”  
Shakespeare’s ‘The Tempest’

Cats and dogs share a common ancestor, a tree-climbing meat-eater called Miacis, which lived 40 million years ago.

Food for Thought: “A dinner invitation, once accepted, is a sacred obligation. If you die before the dinner takes place, your executor must attend.”

Ward McAllister, *Society As I Have Found It*.



Reefer Sadness: Ashes to ashes, dust to...water? Instead of using a traditional burial urn, a Georgia company will lay your cremated remains to rest in an underwater “reef ball.” The concrete reef balls – the ashes are actually stirred into the mixture – are then used to build an artificial reef. The name is misleading: Reef balls are actually bell-shaped; their surfaces are dotted with holes large enough for fish and other sea life to swim through, and they serve as platforms for coral to grow on. Ranging from 400 to 4,000 pounds, a reef ball will set you back \$850 to \$3,200 (cremation not included) and can be personalized with a bronze plaque. They are sold by Eternal Reefs ([www.eternalreefs.com](http://www.eternalreefs.com)), which estimates life expectancy for the balls at a minimum of 500

years. So far about 60 of the underwater monuments have been deployed off Florida’s Atlantic and Gulf coasts. – Lauren Morello – *Audubon magazine* – March-April 2002.



“With me, it’s just a genetic dissatisfaction with everything.”  
Woody Allen

“God gives all birds their food, but he does not drop it into their nests.” Unknown

“Don’t drown the man who taught you to swim.” English proverb

Sign in the front yard of a funeral home: “Drive carefully”. “We’ll wait”.

### Five Stage of Life

1. To grow up.
2. To fill out.
3. To slim down.

4. To hold it.
5. To hell with it.

If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air,  
The person died in battle.

If the horse has one front leg in the air the person died as a result of wounds  
Received in battle.

If the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.

For we are but of yesterday, and know nothing, because our days upon earth  
are a shadow. JOB 8:9

“Man endures pain as an undeserved punishment; women accepts it as a natural heritage.”  
Anonymous



Family Forever  
Stone sculpture by artist Al  
Pisano;

Question: How did North Carolina get the nickname Tar Heel State?

Answer: There are various legends, all based on one of the state's earliest products, pine tar. One story is that during a Civil War battle some Confederate troops retreated, leaving a North Carolina regiment behind. The North Carolinians suggested putting some of their state's tar on the heels of other soldiers to make them stick around in a fight. General Robert e. Lee is said to have commented, "God bless the Tar Heel boys" – and the nickname stuck.

"History is the witness that testifies to the passing of time." Cicero

Have a history teacher explain this ---- If he can.

Abraham Lincoln was elected to Congress in 1846.

John F Kennedy was elected to Congress in 1946.

Abraham Lincoln was elected President in 1860.

John F. Kennedy was elected President in 1960.

The names Lincoln and Kennedy each contain seven letters.

Both were particularly concerned with civil rights.

Both wives lost a child while living in the White House.

Both Presidents were shot on a Friday.

Both Presidents were shot in the head.

Lincoln's secretary was named Kennedy.  
Kennedy's secretary was named Lincoln.

Both were assassinated by Southerners.  
Both were succeeded by Southerners named Johnson.

Andrew Johnson, who succeeded Lincoln, was born in 1808.  
Lyndon Johnson, who succeeded Kennedy, was born in 1908.

John Wilkes Booth, who assassinated Lincoln, was born in  
1839.  
Lee Harvey Oswald, who assassinated Kennedy, was born in  
1939.

Both assassins were known by their three names.  
Both names are composed of fifteen letters.

Lincoln was shot at the theater named 'Ford.'  
Kennedy was shot in a car called 'Lincoln.'

Booth ran from the theater and was caught in a warehouse.  
Oswald ran from a warehouse and was caught in a theater.

Booth and Oswald were assassinated before their trials.  
And here's the kicker.  
A week before Lincoln was shot, he was in Monroe, Maryland.  
A week before Kennedy was shot, he was with Marilyn Monroe.

### IF YOU MUST

Dust if you must. But wouldn't it be better to paint a  
picture, or write a letter, bake a cake, or plant a seed.

Ponder the difference between want and need.

Dust if you must. But there is not much time, with rivers  
to swim and mountains to climb!

Music to hear, and books to read, friends to cherish and life to lead.

Dust if you must. But the world's out there with the sun in  
your eyes, the wind in your hair, a flutter of snow, a shower of rain.  
This day will not come round again.

Dust if you must. But bear in mind, old age will come and it's not kind.

And when you go, and go you must, you, yourself, will make more dust.

Remember, a house becomes a home when you can write  
"I love you" on the furniture.

"The world is round so that friendship may encircle it."

"Short days ago we lived, loved and were loved, felt dawn, saw sunset glow..." (from the poem, in Flander's Field.)

"God and Nature do nothing in vain." author unknown

### Genealogy Pox Disease

Doctors have discovered a new disease that is very contagious to adults. They have named it Genealogy Pox. SYMPTOMS; patient continually complains of a need for names, dates and places. Patient has a blank expression on his face, & often seems deaf to mate & children. Has no taste for work of any kind, except for feverishly looking through records, libraries and courthouse. Has compulsion to write letters & spends hours sitting at a computer. Swears at mailman when he doesn't leave mail or threatens to kick computer if there is no e-mail. Frequents strange places such as cemeteries, ruins and remote desolate country areas. Makes secret night calls & hides the phone bills from mate. Patient mumbles to self & has a strange faraway look in their eyes. Has a strange compulsion to gather & scatter old papers all over the house, leaving piles of paper everywhere with strange numbers & names all over them. TREATMENT: No known cure. Medication is useless. Disease is not fatal but progressively worse. Disease is spreading throughout the country very fast, quickly becoming an epidemic. Patient should attend genealogy meetings, workshops, subscribe to genealogical magazines & be given lots more forms & a computer situated in a quiet corner of the house where he or she can be alone. If family supports patient through this, patient will occasionally come out of strange trance & will act normal again unless you drive by a cemetery or courthouse. REMARKS: The unusual nature of this disease is such that the more sick the patient becomes, the more he or she seems to enjoy it, sometimes dancing with glee & yelling, "I found it".

The earth is our mother.  
Whatever befalls the earth,  
befalls the children of the earth.  
This we know.  
The earth does not belong to us;  
we belong to the earth.  
All things are connected  
like the blood which unites one  
family.  
We did not weave the web of life;  
we are merely strands in it.  
Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves.

Chief Seattle  
1854  
(taken from Spirit of the Eagle)

"The more I study nature, the more I am amazed at the Creator." Louis Pasteur

"One touch of nature makes the whole world kin." Unknown

"I think I shall never see a poem lovely as a tree." Joyce Kilhew

"When the sun shineth make hay."

"We must all hang together, or, assuredly, we shall all hang separately."

--Benjamin Franklin at the signing of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776

"Whoever would overthrow the liberty of a nation must begin by subduing the freeness of speech."  
--Benjamin Franklin

Richard Millhouse Nixon was the first US president whose name contains all the letters from the word "criminal." The second? William Jefferson Clinton.

Turtles can breathe through their butts.

Oak trees do not produce acorns until they are fifty years of age or older.



"All things are sweetened by risk."

A man placed some flowers on the grave of his dearly departed mother and started back toward his car when his attention was diverted to another man kneeling at a grave. The man seemed to be praying with profound intensity and kept repeating, "Why did you have to die? Why did you have to die?"

The first man approached him and said, "Sir, I don't wish to interfere with your private grief, but this demonstration of pain is more than I've ever seen before. For whom do you mourn so deeply? A child? A parent?"

The mourner took a moment to collect himself, then replied, "My wife's first husband."

"Imagination is more important than knowledge." Albert Einstein

"The roots of happiness grow deepest in the soil of service." Anonymous

"Reason is the light and lamp of life." Cicero

"Kindness is loving people more than they deserve." Joseph Joubert

"The white man knows how to make everything, but he does not know how to distribute it." Sitting Bull

"Who is it that says most? Which can say more than this rich praise – that you alone are you?"  
William Shakespeare

"I love humanity; it's people I can't stand." Anonymous

"The Earth does not belong to man; man belongs to the Earth." Chief Seattle, in his "Sacred Web of Life" speech (1854).

"The sun will set without thy assistance." The Talmus

"It is not enough to have a good mind. The main thing is to use it well."  
Rene Descartes

### Liberty and Patriotism

Success in life, liberty, and your pursuit of happiness,  
Sylvia

A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in.  
–Greek proverb

When I despair, I remember that all through history, the way of truth and love has always won. There have been murderers and tyrants, and for a time they can seem invincible. But in the end they always fall. Think of it, always.  
–Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi (1869-1948)

Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power.  
–Abraham Lincoln, U.S. president (1809-1865)

Every society honors its live conformists and its dead troublemakers.  
–Mignon McLaughlin, author

I ask you to judge me by the enemies I have made.  
–Franklin D. Roosevelt, U.S. president (1932)

The reasonable man adapts himself to the world; the unreasonable one persists to adapt the world to himself. Therefore all progress depends on the unreasonable man.  
–George Bernard Shaw, writer, Nobel laureate (1856-1950)

It is the common fate of the indolent to see their rights become a prey to the active. The condition upon which God hath given liberty to man is eternal vigilance; which condition if he break, servitude is at once the consequence of his crime and the punishment of his guilt.  
–John Philpot Curran: Speech upon the Right of Election, 1790.

To put the world in order, we must first put the nation in order; to put the nation in order, we must put the family in order; to put the family in order, we must cultivate our personal life; and to cultivate our personal life, we must first set our hearts right.  
–Confucius

### The Deal

A couple made a deal that who ever died first would come back and inform the other of the after life.

The woman's biggest fear was that there was no heaven.

After a long life the husband was the first to go and true to his word he made contact.

"Mary... Mary.... "

"Is that you Fred?"

"Yes, I have come back like we agreed."

"What is it like?"

"Well, I get up in the morning, I have sex, I have breakfast, I have sex, I bathe in the sun, then I have sex-twice, I have lunch, then sex pretty much all afternoon - supper - then sex till late at night, sleep, then start all over again."

"Oh Fred you surely must be in heaven."

"Hell no, I'm a rabbit in Kansas."

Ever wonder where the word "shit" comes from.....well here it is.... Certain types of manure used to be transported by ship (as everything was back then). Well, in dry form manure weighed a lot less, but once water (at sea) hit it, it not only became heavier, but the process of fermentation began again, and a by-product of fermentation is methane gas. And, as this stuff was stored below decks in bundles, you can see what could - and did - happen. Methane gas began to build up below decks and the first time someone came below decks at night with a lantern . . . . BOOOM!!!!

Several ships were destroyed in this manner before it was discovered what was happening. After that, the bundles of manure were always stamped with the term "S.H.I.T" on them which meant to the sailors to "SHIP HIGH IN TRANSIT" . . . in other words high enough off the lower decks so that any water that came into the hold would not touch this volatile cargo and begin the production of methane.

Bet you didn't know that one

#### Irish Friendship Wish

May there always be work for your hands to do;  
May your purse always hold a coin or two;  
May the sun always shine on your windowpane;  
May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain;  
May the hand of a friend always be near you;  
May God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.

Humor: Dear Editor: Denny - Rootsweb

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Editors receive comical requests and comments from readers, especially on genealogical subjects. For example:

"I am trying to find out why someone I know that is deceased has not

been posted."

"Last week I uploaded my grandfather and this week I plan to upload my grandmother, but I've forgotten my account's password."

"So you can see what I'm talking about, I want to forward you my marriage certificate and three children, one of which is a mistake, as you can see."

The state of Tennessee was named after: Cherokee Indian villages called "Tanasi"

"I know not what the truth may be, I tell it as t'was told too me."

An older friend, recently returned from her hometown in North Carolina, says they've spruced up the churchyard cemetery since her last visit several years back. "Lots of new greenery," she said. "And families are together now."

"Together?" I asked, puzzled.

"Well, years ago they never much worried where they buried someone because everyone was a neighbor anyhow. They'd just dig a grave wherever it seemed to balance things. But, they've redone it so people are with their children and grandchildren, instead of scattered."

"You mean they exhumed all those people and buried them?"

"Oh no," she said. "They just shifted the headstones. Everyone agrees it looks ever so much nicer."

### The Trouser Leg or the Snake Dance Pose

It must be at least 140 degrees in the shade (or at least 50 c) to achieve this Zen. "The Zen Of Genealogy." Beth Uyehara

1. First find a remote Australian Outback cemetery with no living soul for 50 kms
2. Head down and inspect reptile and animal marks around the grave of which there are usually many.
3. Position your body directly in front of a grave.
4. Hold very hot camera trying to shade it with your sun hat in one hand without covering the lens.
5. Lift one leg and hold this position without shaking camera.
6. Rotate eyeballs in all direction especially downward.
7. Focus one eye in the camera and one eye on your trouser leg to ensure no snake or reptile rushes up the leg still based on the ground
8. Hold this position disregarding sunstroke and sunburn.
9. Adjust camera focus and telephoto lens on headstone, still holding breath in, not shaking camera, keeping one eye on snake hole and trouser leg.
10. Take photograph.
11. Run as fast as possible to nearest bush at least 100 yards away, which affords very little shade.
12. Drink large quantities of water. Shade camera and work out the next headstone to be photographed.



13. Repeat 1 - 12.

#### HOLY ROLLERS

A new form of religious frenzy and folly has appeared in New York. Near Rochester a band of persons calling themselves Gospel Workers, but known to outsiders as "Holy Rollers," is holding a camp meeting. The theory of these people is that each person has some of the devil in him, and that the way to get rid of him is to roll him out, after praying for success in their effort they throw themselves on the ground and roll until they become exhausted. Last Friday a young woman rolled herself until she had to be caught and tied with a rope to a tent pole to prevent her from doing herself serious bodily harm. It is queer how readily some people forget the necessary relation between common sense and religion. Thanks to: Herrick M. Drake dragonslair@relia.net

"My family tree is full of notholes. It's not him, it's not her, it's not them . . ."

"You think you've got problems? How far do you think Adam and Eve got?"

"Genealogists will date any old thing."

"A great many family trees are the result of grafting."

"When I Die, I Want To Die Like My Grandfather Who Died Peacefully In His Sleep. Not Screaming Like All The Passengers In His Car."

"There is surely something charming in seeing the smallest thing done thoroughly, as if to remind the careless that whatever is worth doing is worth doing well." Charles Dickens in *Household Words*.

Two women friends had gone for a Girls Night Out but had been decidedly over-enthusiastic on beer.

Incredibly drunk and walking home they needed to pee. They were very near a graveyard and one of them suggested they do their business behind a head stone or something. One of them had nothing to wipe with so she thought she'd take off her panties and use them, then throw them away. Her friend however was wearing a rather expensive underwear set and didn't want to ruin hers but was lucky enough to salvage a large ribbon from a wreath that was on one of the graves and proceeded to wipe herself with that. They then made off for home.

The next day one woman's husband phoned the other husband and said "These damn girls nights out have got to stop. My wife came home last night without her panties"

"That's nothing" said the other "Mine came back with a card stuck between the cheeks of her butt that said 'From all of us at the Fire Station. We'll never forget you!'"

THREE MEN -- ONE GERMAN, ONE JAPANESE AND A HILLBILLY -- WERE SITTING NAKED IN A SAUNA.....

SUDDENLY THERE WAS A BEEPING SOUND... THE GERMAN PRESSED HIS FOREARM AND THE BEEP STOPPED. THE OTHERS LOOKED AT HIM QUESTIONINGLY.....

"THAT WAS MY PAGER," HE SAID. " I HAVE A MICROCHIP UNDER THE SKIN OF MY ARM."

A FEW MINUTES LATER, A PHONE RANG. THE JAPANESE FELLOW LIFTED HIS PALM TO HIS EAR.....

WHEN HE FINISHED, HE EXPLAINED, "THAT WAS MY MOBILE PHONE. I HAVE A MICROCHIP IN MY HAND."

THE HILLBILLY FELT DECIDEDLY LOW TECH. NOT TO BE OUTDONE, HE DECIDED HE HAD TO DO SOMETHING JUST AS IMPRESSIVE.....

HE STEPPED OUT OF THE SAUNA AND WENT TO THE BATHROOM. HE RETURNED WITH A PIECE OF TOILET PAPER HANGING FROM HIS BEHIND.....  
THE OTHERS RAISED THEIR EYEBROWS AND STARED AT HIM....

THE HILLBILLY FINALLY SAID, "WELL, WILL YOU LOOK AT THAT. I'M GETTING A FAX."

### Getting The Right Address

A new business was opening, and one of the owner's friends sent flowers for the occasion. But when the owner read the card with the flowers, it said, "Rest in Peace."

The owner was a little peeved, and he called the florist to complain.

After he had told the florist about the obvious mistake, the florist said, "Sir, I'm really sorry for the mistake, but rather than getting angry, you should imagine this:

Somewhere there is a funeral taking place today, and they have flowers with a note saying, "Congratulations on your new location."

### SEEING GOD

A small boy once approached his slightly older sister with a question about God. "Susie, can anybody ever really see God?" he asked.

Busy with other things, Susie curtly replied: "No, of course not silly. God is so far up in heaven that nobody can see him."

Time passed, but his question still lingered so he approached his mom: "Mom, can anybody ever really see God?" "No, not really," she gently said. "God is a spirit and he dwells in our hearts, but we can never really see Him."

Somewhat satisfied but still wondering, the youngster went on his way. Not long afterwards, his saintly old grandfather took the little boy on a fishing trip.

They were having a great time together. The sun was beginning to set with unusual splendor and the grandfather stared silently at the exquisite beauty unfolding before them.

On seeing the face of his grandfather reflecting such deep peace and contentment, the little boy thought for a moment and finally spoke hesitatingly:

"Granddad, I--I-- wasn't going to ask anybody else, but I wonder if you can tell me the answer to something I've been wondering about a long time. Can anybody--can anybody ever really see God?".

The old man did not even turn his head. A long moment slipped by before he finally answered. "Son," he quietly said. "It's getting so I can't see anything else."  
Author Unknown

### **If Tomorrow starts without me....**

A few weeks ago a woman teacher was killed in an auto accident. She was very, very well liked, so the school systems shut down for her funeral and it was on the news and so on. On the day the workers came back to work, they found this poem in their e-mail that the deceased woman had sent on Friday before she left for home.

If tomorrow starts without me,  
And I'm not there to see,  
If the sun should rise and  
find your eyes all filled with tears for me;  
I wish so much you wouldn't cry the way you did today,  
While thinking of the many things,  
we didn't get to say.  
I know how much you love me,  
As much as I love you,  
And each time that you think of me,  
I know you'll miss me too;  
But when tomorrow starts without me,  
Please try to understand,  
That an angel came and called my name,  
And took me by the hand,  
And said my place was ready,  
In heaven far above,  
And that I'd have to leave behind  
All those I dearly love.  
But as I turned to walk away,  
A tear fell from my eye  
For all my life,  
I'd always thought,  
I didn't want to die.  
I had so much to live for,  
So much left yet to do,  
It seemed almost impossible,  
That I was leaving you.  
I thought of all the yesterdays,  
The good ones and the bad,  
I thought of all the love we shared,  
And all the fun we had.  
If I could relive yesterday,  
Just even for a while,  
I'd say good-bye and kiss you  
And maybe see you smile.  
But then I fully realized,  
That this could never be,  
For emptiness and memories,  
Would take the place of me.  
And when I thought of worldly things,  
I might miss come tomorrow,  
I thought of you, and when I did,  
My heart was filled with sorrow.  
But when I walked through heaven's gates,

I felt so much at home.  
When God looked down and smiled at me,  
From His great golden throne,  
He said, "This is eternity,  
And all I've promised you."  
Today your life on earth is past,  
But here life starts anew.  
I promise no tomorrow,  
But today will always last,  
And since each day's the same way  
There's no longing for the past.  
You have been so faithful,  
So trusting and so true.  
Though there were times you did some things,  
You knew you shouldn't do.  
But you have been forgiven,  
And now at last you're free.  
So won't you come and take my hand,  
And share my life with me?  
So when tomorrow starts without me,  
Don't think we're far apart,  
For every time you think of me,  
I'm right here, in your heart.

#### Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

This must take a special kind of person.

1. How many steps does the guard take during his walk across the tomb of the Unknowns and why?

21 steps. It alludes to the twenty-one gun salute, which is the highest honor given any military or foreign dignitary.

2. How long does he hesitate after his about face to begin his return walk and why?

21 seconds for the same reason as answer number 1

3. Why are his gloves wet?

His gloves are moistened to prevent his losing his grip on the rifle.

4. Does he carry his rifle on the same shoulder all the time, and if not, why not?

He carries the rifle on the shoulder away from the tomb. After his march across the path, he executes an about face, and moves the rifle to the outside shoulder.

5. How often are the guards changed?

Guards are changed every thirty minutes, twenty-four hours a day, 365 & nbs p; >days a year.

6. What are the physical traits of the guard limited to?

For a person to apply for guard duty at the tomb, he must be between 5' 10" and 6' 2" tall and his waist size cannot exceed 30." other requirements of the Guard: They must commit 2 years of life to guard the tomb, live in a barracks under the tomb, and cannot drink any alcohol on or off

duty for the rest of their lives. They cannot swear in public for the rest of their lives and cannot disgrace the uniform {fighting} or the tomb in any way. After two years, the guard is given a wreath pin that is worn on their lapel signifying they served as guard of the tomb. There are only 400 presently worn. The guard must obey these rules for the rest of their lives or give up the wreath pin. The shoes are specially made with very thick soles to keep the heat and cold from their feet. There are metal heel plates that extend to the top of the shoe in order to make the loud click as they come to a halt. There are no wrinkles, folds or lint on the uniform.

Guards dress for duty in front of a full-length mirror. The first six months of duty a guard cannot talk to anyone, nor watch TV. All off duty time is spent studying the 175 notable people laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery. A guard must memorize who they are and where they are interred. Among the notables are:

President Taft, Joe E. Lewis {the boxer} and Medal of Honor winner Audie Murphy, {the most decorated soldier of WWII} of Hollywood fame. Every guard spends five hours a day getting his uniforms ready for guard duty.

ETERNAL REST GRANT THEM O LORD, AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM.

I don't know if you saw this in the news but it really impressed me.

Funny, our US Senate/House took 2 days off as they couldn't work because of the expected storm. On the ABC evening news, it was reported tonight that, because of the dangers from Hurricane Isabelle approaching Washington, DC, the military members assigned the duty of guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier were given permission to suspend the assignment. They respectfully declined the offer, "No way, Sir!" Soaked to the skin, marching in the pelting rain of a tropical storm, they said that guarding the Tomb was not just an assignment, it was the highest honor that can be afforded to a serviceperson. The tomb has been patrolled continuously, 24/7, since 1930.

I don't usually suggest that many emails be forwarded, but I'd be very proud if this one reached as many as possible. We can be very proud of our young men and women in the service no matter where they serve.

God Bless them.

#### Salt Lake City, UT

Salt Lake City, Utah, is a worldwide center for genealogical research. Even the big department stores sell genealogy supplies.

One newcomer to Salt Lake City, and a non-researcher, got a job as a clerk at one of those big department stores. She received her introduction to genealogy one day when a customer came into the store and asked, "Where do I find the family group sheets?"

The new clerk, with a shocked look on her face, answered, "Family group sheets? All we carry are the king, queen, double and twin-size sheets."

#### **Talking Tombstones Bear a Message from the Grave – 8 July 2004**

LONDON (Reuters) – The dead could soon be speaking from the grave if an American inventor's plan becomes reality.

Robert Barrows, of Burlingame, California has filed a patent application for a video-equipped tombstone that will display a video message from grave's occupant.

"If his patent is granted, Barrows hopes that when people make out their will, they also leave a parting video with their lawyer," New Scientist magazine said on Wednesday.

The hollow, talking tombstone will include a flat touch screen and will house a computer with a microchip memory or hard disc. It will be powered by electricity from the cemetery's lighting system.

The plan will not be the first electronically enhanced tombstone. An American company has a patent on a gravestone that will display photographs of the deceased and tributes from friends, according to the magazine.

But the Barrows plan will go one further by including contributions actually from the deceased.

"It's history from the horse's mouth," he said.

### I Shall Not Want

In his beautiful book, "I shall Not Want". Robert Ketchum tells of a Sunday School teacher who asked her group of children if anyone could quote the entire 23rd Psalm. A golden haired four and a half year old girl was among those who raised their hand. A bit skeptical, the teacher asked if she could really quote the entire Psalm. The little girl came to the front of the room, faced the class, and made a perky little bow,

and said, "The Lord is my shepherd, that's all I want."

She bowed again and went and sat down.

That may well be the greatest interpretation of the 23rd Psalm ever heard.

### WOKE UP THIS MORNING

Author Unknown

If you woke up this morning  
with more health than illness,  
you are more blessed than the  
million who won't survive the week.

If you have never experienced  
the danger of battle,  
the loneliness of imprisonment,  
the agony of torture or  
the pangs of starvation,  
you are ahead of millions of people  
around the world.

If you attend a church meeting  
without fear of harassment,  
arrest, torture, or death,  
you are more blessed than almost  
three billion people in the world.

If you have food in your refrigerator,  
clothes on your back, a roof over  
your head and a place to sleep,

you are richer than 75% of this world.

If you have money in the bank,  
in your wallet, and spare change  
in a dish someplace, you are among  
the top 8% of the world's wealthy.

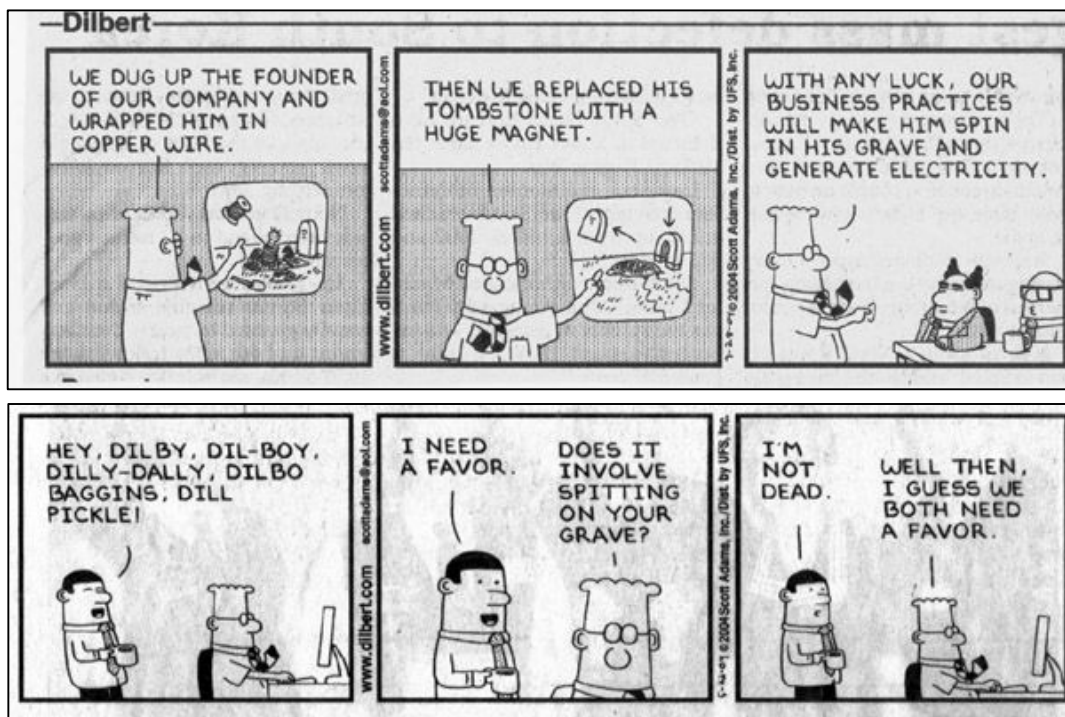
If your parents are still married and alive,  
you are very rare,  
especially in the United States.

If you hold up your head with a smile  
on your face and are truly thankful,  
you are blessed because the majority can,  
but most do not.

If you can hold someone's hand, hug them  
or even touch them on the shoulder,  
you are blessed because you can  
offer God's healing touch.

If you can read this message,  
you are more blessed than over  
two billion people in the world  
that cannot read anything at all.

You are so blessed in ways  
you may never even know.





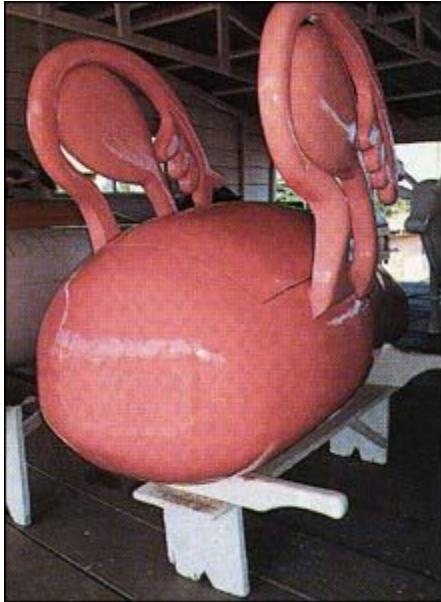
<http://www.ajlambert.com>



Three friends from the local congregation were asked "When you're in your casket, and friends and congregation members are mourning over you, what would you like them to say?"

"Artie said: "I would like them to say I was a wonderful husband, a fine spiritual leader, and a great family man." Eugene commented: "I would like them to say I was a wonderful teacher and servant of God who made a huge difference in people's lives." Don said: "I'd like them to say, "Look, he's moving!"

Isaac Adjetey Sowah's showroom in a suburb of Accra, Africa has some of the most colorful coffins to be found anywhere. *1<sup>st</sup> picture is casket of a woman's uterus for a gynecologist.*



Subject: Poor Widow

A woman's husband died. He had \$30,000 to his name. After everything is done at the funeral home and cemetery, she tells her closest friend that there is none of the \$30,000 left.

The friend says, "How can that be?"

The widow says, "Well, the funeral cost me \$6,500. And of course, I made a donation to the church.

That was \$500, and I spent another \$500 for the wake, food and drinks, you know. .. The rest went for the memorial stone."

The friend says, "\$22,500 for the memorial stone? My God, how big is it?"

The widow says, "Three carats."

Subject: The Pillsbury Doughboy-sad news

The Pillsbury Doughboy died yesterday of a yeast infection, and complications from repeated pokes in the belly. He was 71.

Doughboy is survived by his wife, Play Dough, two children, John Dough and Jane Dough, who has a bun in the oven. He is also survived by his elderly father, Pop Tart. Doughboy was buried in a lightly greased coffin. Dozens of celebrities turned out to pay their respects, including Betty Crocker and Captain Crunch. Aunt Jemima delivered the eulogy, and lovingly described Doughboy as a man who never knew how much he was kneaded.

Doughboy rose quickly in show business, but his later life was filled with turnovers. Despite being a little flaky at times, he still, as a crusty old man, was considered a roll model for millions.

The grave site was piled high with flours.

The funeral was held at 3:50 for about 20 minutes

Subject: Man of the House:

A man had just finished reading his book "Man Of The House" while making his commute home from work. By the time he reached home, he stormed into the house and walked directly up to his wife, pointing his finger in her face, he said "From now on I want you to know that I am the man of the house and my word is law! You are to prepare me a gourmet meal tonight, and when I'm finished eating my meal, I expect a scrumptious dessert afterward. Then, after dinner, you're going to draw my bath so I can relax. And when I'm finished with my bath, guess who's going to dress me and comb my hair?"

"The Funeral Director would be my guess," said his wife.

Subject: Still living at home and expecting to inherit a fortune when his sickly, widower father died, Jerry decided he needed a woman to enjoy it with. So he went to a singles bar and he searched until he spotted a woman whose beauty took his breath away.

"Right now, I'm just an ordinary man," he said walking up to her, "but within a month or two, my father will pass and I'll inherit over 20 million dollars." The woman went home with Jerry, and four days later she became his stepmother.

Men will never learn.

#### FALLING DOWN DRUNK:

A drunk stumbles out of a bar and he makes his way into the cemetery behind the tavern. He walks right to the edge of a freshly dug grave, loses his balance and falls in.

There's a puddle of water in the hole, and he spends the rest of the night yelling, "Help me, I'm cold! Someone help me, I'm cold!"

At closing time another drunk walks behind the bar and hears the noise. He gets to the open grave, looks down and say, "Of course you're cold, you idiot, you kicked all the dirt off yourself!"

#### SEXUAL RELATIONS

An elderly couple, sitting together watching television. During one of those commercials, the husband asked his wife,

"Whatever happened to our sexual relations?"

After a long thoughtful silence, the wife replied during the next commercial,

"You know, I don't know. I don't even think we got a Christmas card from them this year!"

#### **Country Funeral**

As a young minister, I was asked by a funeral director to hold a grave side service for a derelict man who had died while traveling through the

area with no family or friends. The funeral was held way back in the country. This man would be the first to be laid to rest at this cemetery. As I was not familiar with the backwoods area, I became lost.

Being the typical man I didn't stop for directions. But I finally arrived an hour late, I saw the crew and backhoe, but the hearse was no where in sight.

The workmen were eating lunch.

I apologized to the workers for my tardiness, (who looked puzzled) I stepped to the side of the open grave, to find the vault lid already in place. I assured the workers I would not hold them long, but this was the proper thing to do.

As the workers gathered around, still eating their lunch. I poured out my heart and soul. As I preached the workers began to say "Amen,. Praise the Lord and Glory, ( they must have been Baptist). I preached, and I preached, like I'd never preached before. I began from Genesis all the way to Revelation. I preached for two hours and 45 minutes. It was a long and

lengthy service. I closed in prayer and it was finished.

As I was walking to my car, I felt that I had done my duty and would leave with a renewed sense of purpose and dedication, in spite of my tardiness.

As I was opening the door and taking off my coat. I overheard one of the workers saying to another.

" I've been putting in septic tanks for 20 years, and I ain't never seen anything like this before.

#### Two Old Men and Dolls:

Two old men decide they are close to their last days and decide to have a last night on the town.

After a few drinks, they end up at the local brothel.

The Madam takes one look at the two old geezers and whispers to her manager, "Go up to the first two bedrooms and put an inflated doll in each bed. These two are so old and drunk, I'm not wasting two of my girls on them. They won't know the difference."

The manager does as he is told and the two old men go upstairs and take care of their business.

As they are walking home the first man says, "You know, I think my girl was dead!"

"Dead?" says his friend, "why would you say that?"

"Well, she never moved or made a sound all the time I was loving her."

His friend says, "I think mine was a witch."

"A witch, why the heck would you say that?"

"Well, I was making love to her, kissing her on the neck and I gave her a little bite, then she farted and flew out the window."