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My 47 year old tree

Sunday, December 11, 2016

How long does an artificial tree last? I have read opinions and comments on this topic quite a lot recently.

This is Christmas 1969. Can you see the baby under the tree? Baby Jeannie was 3 months old and I sent this photo to DH who left for Vietnam right after she was born.



Here's the same tree this morning ready for Christmas 2016

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I made the tree skirt decades ago from material from my maternity clothes and the baby clothes of our 3 children. Every year it's a visual reminder of "the way we were."

Many of the ornaments were also on that tree in 1969.
More were acquired from our travels.

Here DH & baby Jeannie are getting acquainted in Hawaii during his R&R.



Here's how the baby (Hayburner1969) looks at age 47.





I wonder how many other trees are approaching their "Golden Anniversary?"

Note:

The tree is a 6 ft "Scotch Pine"

My Dad & I bought it in Sears for \$30.

We got our money's worth!

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DS9KIE



and I thought my trees were old
1623 days ago



MARYJEANSL



You surely did get your money's worth! We always had a real tree when I was growing up, and I guess I got it ingrained in me to always do that. Now my kids wouldn't hear of anything else. :-) I hope you had a very merry Christmas!
1625 days ago



RAYLINSTEPHENS



Thank you for such an uplifting blog!

I am wearing T-Shirts that are over 40 years old so your tree could live to be 100!
1635 days ago



CD17264479



What a super blog and I love the pictures! My mom's artificial tree is still making the rounds and we've had it since I was a kid--and that makes it old, LOL. Will have to ask her what she paid for it.
1637 days ago



50YEARSAWIFE



That tree was worth every penny.
1638 days ago



1STBUCKETITEM



Wonderful memories. May you and yours enjoy a beautiful Christmas!
1640 days ago



KBSPARKY



the picture of your husband with baby Jeannie is so great. made my morning!
1641 days ago



SUNNYBEACHGIRL



On our 3rd in 40 years. The last one lost too many "needles " last year and the drooping branches were not pretty. Yours is amazing
1641 days ago



SMILINGEYES2



Best use of resources ever. Love the tree skirt. Mom encouraged us to treat the tree as a charm bracelet. Each year we added to the tree so that its meaning increased over the years.

Thank your husband for his service and you and the family who had to make sacrifices as he served.
1641 days ago



HELEN_BRU



I donated all my decorations and two trees (one white) to charity after my dh died. Hope someone is enjoying them.
1641 days ago



HOLLYM48



I love the tree skirt. What a great idea! We have an artificial tree as well and will keep it for years to come. Great pics of the tree and your beautiful family!
1641 days ago



ELAINEB1972



1641 days ago



SUNNYCALIGIRL



Sweet. Family memories.
1641 days ago



PHEBESS



I have to laugh at your tree's story! (Though I'd love to hear what it said, as well.) It's wonderful that it has stood up so well, and been with you through good times and bad. Sort of an eternal symbol for your family!
1641 days ago



CD3409143



Wow got rid of one years ago that was bought in 81. Kept having to fix it as the holes for the boughs kept wearing out. Knew a guy yrs ago that was a "nam vet from BC. I would have joined if I was older.
1641 days ago

Comment edited on: 12/11/2016 5:32:59 PM



KRISZTA11



Looks wonderful, I hope ours will last that long too!
The old one was retired last year, after 22 years.



1641 days ago



PIXIE-LICIOUS



I bet thirty bucks for an artificial tree was considered a lot of money back then!
1641 days ago



AQUAGIRL08



Amazing! I love reading about other people's Christmas traditions and preparations!
1641 days ago






L_DROUIN

I think your tree looks great! I bet you can still get many more years of use out of it. Your daughter is lovely too. Have a lovely Christmas!
1641 days ago



TERI-RIFIC

Very touching!  And they both look great for 47!
1641 days ago



POLSKARENIA

Both the tree and your 'little girl' are looking good!
1641 days ago



MARYALICE411

If that tree could talk
1641 days ago



PEGGYO

Great tree way to go!
1641 days ago



ANAKIE

Ours lasted at least 20 years before we retired it for a second hand one from MIL.
1641 days ago



MORTICIAADDAMS

I have a full sized tree that was my mothers so it is over 50 years old. I have another which is a year younger than yours. And a new tree. Plus a bunch of other smaller ones. I love Xmas trees.

Your "baby" is beautiful!! DH is pretty good looking too. LOL.
1641 days ago



DR1939

Lovely tradition.
1641 days ago



PHOENIX1949

Loved your blog on so many levels.

Our 30-year old, 6 ft., tree was let go a few years ago as it had become very dried out from being left up year round and decorated for the various seasons and had become a fire hazard if we used the factory installed lights.

Our ornaments date back to one from my grandmother's childhood (born 1883), WWII V-day gift tag saved by Mom, ones I painted from a kit in my teens, collectibles from travels over the years, gift ornaments. . . trimming the new 8 ft. tree last year when we hosted the family gathering took me 3 full days to decorate which was a wonderful trip down Memory Lane but pretty difficult for the old arthritic body.



1641 days ago



CARBMONSTERII

Such a special tree! I love all the family history it has seen and been a part of and reminds you of now. Hope it continues in the family for another 47 years. They say plastic, especially the older ones, is not biodegradable, so hopefully it will continue to look as wonderful as it does this season.



1641 days ago



CD4114015

I LOVE this blog! I absolutely love "memory" things such as this. My house is FULL of old memories...whether it be rocks or pine cones or whatever one of us picks up along the way but we always get SOMETHING!



Thanks for a walk down your memory walk...it deserves a+++++



1641 days ago



ESSENTIALLYME

WOW!!! I can't even remember how many trees hubby and I have had in our 28 years. You definitely got your moneys worth!

1641 days ago



ECOAGE

Not sure of the exact age but I "inherited" the silvery tree with all its turquoise ornaments and spinning color wheel from mom-in-law. Maybe, I should pull it out of storage for the season.

1641 days ago



PRNCSCUP1-2FULL

Our tree was bought much later than 1969 and it didn't last! Shows you how the production of things changed in time. I bet \$30 was a lot at that time, but you certainly got your money's worth! what precious memories are part of that tree! Thanks for sharin git with us! And sharing your family too! Merry Christmas!

1641 days ago



SYLPHINPROGRESS

The tree and its skirt are your family's variation on The Tree of Life. The central figures in each photo are keepers.

1641 days ago



LIONESSFIT7

Wow! How have you been able to preserve it? Do you keep it in a box all year?

1641 days ago



WATERMELLEN

What a fun blog: you did indeed get a lifetime of happy memories out of that investment!!

1641 days ago



LISAMARIE2015

Wow! That is impressive! They sure don't make things like they used to!!

1641 days ago



DOVESEYES

Love memories and tradition thanks so much :)

1641 days ago



ONEKIDSMOM

Mine would be getting close, but it got shuffled off in the divorce in 2003... I had purchased it for my first apartment in 1972. The one I have now is circa 2003, so it's 14, just a teen!

1641 days ago



NUMD97

Your blogs, B_B, always evoke a lot of remembrances for me: How hard those first Christmases must have been for you, with an infant and a husband deployed to Vietnam. I am so happy (as I know you are, too) that he came back to celebrate many more Christmases with you and with the tree that started it all.

Beautiful way to cherish those times. May you celebrate many, many more together in peace.

1641 days ago



YELLOW09RED

It's beautiful. I love your words "The way we were". It's awesome. Blessings for you all. Enjoy looking at it until you take it down.



1641 days ago



CD8113065

Wow. Even factoring in the difference in picture quality, it looks better now than it did when it was new. What a wonderful piece of personal history and tradition. Happy holidays!

1641 days ago



RO2BENT

You probably have the oldest of anyone I know





1641 days ago



MILLEDGE2
What a marvelous tradition!
1641 days ago



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