



# BROOKLYN\_BORN

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## A Different View of Valentine's Day

Sunday, February 14, 2016



I appreciate the Valentine Goodies from Spark Friends just as I like receiving comments and notes of encouragement all year. It's nice to feel connected to people and something bigger than ourselves.

Now as I log in to SP this morning for the 560th day of my streak, I don't have a Valentine gift from DH, not a card, not candy, not flowers or any other kind of gift, nor do I expect to receive anything.

This is not a rant, but a reflection on a TV show last night where a series of girlfriends or wives, reacted badly or violently to the lack of or what they considered inappropriate Valentine remembrances.

I suppose I take a larger view of things and look at the big picture. I'm drinking coffee right now. DH made it for us, just as he has done every morning for nearly 49 years. I'm looking at our kitchen that he cleaned after dinner, including scrubbing the pots. He does this every night.

I'm remembering a time long ago when DH didn't open the door for me. I got there first and opened the door. A friend remarked "I guess chivalry is dead." No it wasn't. He bathed and put to bed our 3 small children so I could get ready to go out - a different definition of chivalry.

Societal observances of assorted holidays are nice. We feel connected to something bigger than ourselves. I like them, even the ones I don't participate in. However, our relationships are more than a single day.

It's kind of like my Spark life - seeking a healthy lifestyle.

No one day of vigorous exercise will make much difference if I sit on my butt all week.

No one day of starving myself will make up for a week of overeating.

Conversely, one day of overindulgence or lack of exercise will not undo the effects of regular healthy living.

We must keep our eye on the big picture.

One more story

When my Dad, a loving and caring man, died at Christmas in 1997, Mom and I attended a grief support group. As Valentine's Day approached, we were warned that holidays like this would be especially difficult. Mom whispered to me "I guess it would be if Dad had ever remembered it."

We are more than a number and our lives are more than one day.

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## Member Comments About This Blog Post



**MAYBER**

Well Said! THANK YOU! HUGS

1825 days ago



**QUAIL75**

Well Said!

1921 days ago



**SEWATER**



1922 days ago



**AMBER461**

Great blog thanks for the reminder an also thanks for sharing.

1935 days ago



**CD13939073**

Well Said!

1935 days ago



**FLMOMX2**

What a great blog about focusing on the important things

1936 days ago



**AMYSYOKO**

I love this post, thank you for reminding me of ALL the little things that add up to a big thing. I

can so appreciate DH and our relationship 😊

1936 days ago



**ALIHIKES**

Very true and heartfelt blog!

1937 days ago



**PATTYSPENCER**

My parents made such a big deal about remembering holidays - ALL holidays that they've passed (mom in 82 - dad in 94) I don't send any cards at Christmas and only to my son for his birthday/christmas/valentines (he's an only child) People think I'm kinda odd for not observing what they feel in their world is important

1938 days ago



**NASFKAB**

awesome way to look at things lovely way to look at things & the comment at the end was priceless it happens to many of us but if there were thoughtful loving gestures in each day it would be more useful hope could get my point across, congratulations on being featured blog post

1938 days ago



**LINDA!**

Great blog. Many of us even take our partners for granted when they do so much everyday to

help us. Thanks for reminding us.

1938 days ago



**IMLOVINGME**

I loved reading your blog! It's true, we must look at daily life occurrences that really matter. Not just the one day observances that don't last. What DH does daily & weekly for you & your family



has more meaning than anything that could have been done on a single day!  
1938 days ago



**SEAJESS**



**AWESOME**

perspective! Love the story you saved to close.



1938 days ago



**CAROLJ35**



**WELL SAID!!!**

We've been married nearly 62 years and since DH loves to buy cards I have many from past years, so this year I told him not to buy any and I pulled out about 25 cards that I had in this house. (our summer home contains more)  
I thoroughly enjoyed them, even ones from my sister who is in China for a month and also some handmade ones from her little grandchildren.

I know I am loved as DH tells me that every day!!!

1938 days ago



**CD10895053**



**THANK YOU!**

Very well said and so true!

1938 days ago



**JUNETTA2002**



1938 days ago



**GRANDMAKARENG**



I agree. I lost my SO three years ago. We were together almost 20 years & seldom did I get a box of candy or flowers. We enjoyed our time together & that is what makes me smile when I remember him.

1938 days ago



**TCICHOWSKI**



**Well Said!**

1938 days ago



**STEVIEBEE569**



**Well Said!**

1939 days ago



**GODSBEST**



It truly is the little things in life that make a big difference!

1939 days ago



**DSJB9999**



**AWESOME**

blog, we REALLY agree with your thinking and celebrate our love whenever not just on



1 day! we have been wed 16 years and together 28 years this year

1939 days ago



**WINTERRAIN**



What a great blog. I heard on the radio the day after Valentines day of women who had told their s/o they didn't have to do anything for Valentines day....only to be mad at them for not doing anything. I think that mindset is silly and I am right there with you on enjoying the small things my other half does for me every day.

When we can step back and enjoy the bigger picture we are going to be happy. I don't need one day out of the year for him to go all out to show he loves me....he shows me everyday.

1939 days ago

**JUSTLYLE**



What a great blog, congratulations for being chosen.  
My sentiments exactly, everyday should be Valentines, birthday and Christmas. We buy each other gifts and do kind deeds all through the year.



And yes she didn't get me a valentine card, after reading the one I gave her she loved it soo much she signed it and gave it to me. After 58 years as of yesterday, it works for us.  
The Old Farmer, Skeeter  
1939 days ago



**NEPTUNE1939**



1939 days ago



**MCFITZ2**

Well Said!

I agree. A life time of love and consideration trumps a once a year gift.  
1939 days ago



**CD13492651**

What a terrific way to look at things. You are so right! Who cares what society thinks our observance of any given holiday should be. I, too, feel that how we celebrate should reflect our relationships in their individuality.

Thanks so much for sharing!



1939 days ago



**DIANNEMT**

Amen--while a card might be nice, I'd rather have the day-to-day attention and love.  
1939 days ago



**SPICY23**

Well said. It's great that you can recognize the daily actions that your DH takes that cherish you.  
1939 days ago



**REDQT2**

I love it! The little things every day show love so much more than a one time grand gesture.  
1940 days ago



**CASS6631**

I appreciated being taken out on the day before Valentines to celebrate the day with each other and spend time with one another. that made me feel good we also had the opportunity too go watch our grand-daughter play soft ball that day as well. and we took a picture of both events so we wouldn't forget it. happy that your spouse does things for you too. I agree Its not always the gifts you get but the action they put behind there words. have a nice day and continue with your progress.  
1940 days ago



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1940 days ago



**MOMTHEQUILTER**

Many different "love languages." I, too, have a husband I can appreciate for the things he has

done for me, not the things he has given me. Thanks for the reminder  
1940 days ago



**NANCY-**

I hope your husband got to read this blog. But then again he probably already knows how much you love and appreciate him.  
Great blog.



1940 days ago



**DMEYER4**

Well Said!

1940 days ago



**EMMACORY**



Appreciating what you have lead to contentment.

1940 days ago



**MARYJEANSL**

Your husband is a gem! I love your stories. I remember when a friend of mine told me that her best Mother's Day was when she, her husband, and their four sons all worked together to get a huge amount of yard work done. At the end of the day, the yard was lovely, and she was a happy woman.

1940 days ago



**SUTHRNWMN**

Well Said! I Agree

A very though provoking blog, thank you for writing it.

1940 days ago



**AJB121299**

Nice

1940 days ago



**NUMD97**

I purposely kept your blog up to ensure that I came back to it to comment on it. Time spent with your thoughts always leave me pondering. Now that I have reread it a second time, I appreciate perhaps even moreso, your perspective for the larger picture, be it weight loss, or the tender gestures of a loved one, not supplied on special events, but all year long. It says a lot about you, having lived with your partner for close to a half a century: That you appreciate the everyday gestures and take nothing for granted.

I really love the way you think. Thanks for the posting!

Best,

Nu

1940 days ago



**JEN-JENG**

Such a wonderful post.

Sounds like you are blessed with a wonderful man who is there for you.

Well Said!

Please give him a blue ribbon form me for being an outstanding man!



1940 days ago



**GRANDMABABA**

I agree completely and congratulate you on a partnership that is perfect for you!

1940 days ago



**4CYNDI**

Your story is very similar to mine. We will "celebrate" Valentine's Day (and any other holiday of gift giving) by spending it with each other and not purchasing a gift. My husband refuses to wait to get me anything I want/need until a "manufactured greeting card holiday".

I totally agree that having a spouse who is there to help and do with is much more important than getting a diamond necklace (or anything else, including flowers, candy, etc).

Thank you for sharing!

1940 days ago



**RHVICK**

Your blog moved me to tears. Thanks for sharing!

1940 days ago





**100BLIGHTER**

Great blog.... good to see a beautiful marriage. And a real celebration.  
1940 days ago



**KDYLOSE**

Great blog  
1940 days ago



**SPARKYFLOWER**

Spark People have been wonderful.  
1940 days ago



**ONTHEPATH2**

Spot on! One day, one brief moment in a lifetime! Girl, you are loved and you know it!  
1940 days ago



**KRISZTA11**

I loved your blog,



to the Popular Blog award!



1940 days ago



**SPINNER86**

Sp very true. Thank you for sharing.  
1940 days ago



**PHHHISC**

Well Said!

1940 days ago



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