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Daddy, how old is a Geezer?

Friday, January 22, 2021



That was the question I asked my father when he complained about the slow driver he was following on the highway. The man stopped suddenly and Dad had to slam on his brakes to avoid a collision. Of course, I understand that Dad would have been at fault if there had been an accident.

Once upon a time I proudly pulled my new driver's license out of my wallet. Look I'm old enough to drink

Once I wore an ID around my neck
Look, building security staff, I have a job and I belong here.

Now I carry a Medicare card along with my driver's license
Look at that. I'm in group 1B to get the Covid vaccine.
I'm right behind the healthcare and other front line workers.

It all went by so fast.
Still, there were signs along the way

5 years ago Joe and I were turned down for an apartment we wanted to rent in Paris.
The owner decided it wasn't appropriate for an "elderly couple"
It was on the 4th floor of a building without an elevator.

In 2018 we were not able to book a certain kayak excursion because we were over 70.
The minimum age was 7. (Note, we have 6 kayaks)
It was an "insurance requirement" they explained.

Joe & I are taking an online class in "Lithuanian Language and Culture"
This is the image to help us remember the word for "retired person"

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Suddenly, I observe that residents in the nursing home are not that much older than me. Some are even my age

Suddenly, I notice that the obituaries include a lot of people from MY decade.

I Can't Turn Back Time but maybe I can slow it down a bit?

We all know how we WANT to spend our "golden years"

We also know what it takes to give ourselves the best chance of achieving it.

Once time stretched out before me like an endless superhighway and I was pushing the speed limit. Now, I'm meandering down a narrower country road. I don't want to be one of the wrecks broken down on the shoulder, so I better take care of this engine and all its parts. That's exactly why I am here.

Wherever you are on the road of life, take care of yourself.

Do it now for a longer, happier road ahead.



Which brings me back to the question I asked my Dad.

How old is a geezer? Dad said, "anybody older than me."

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POLSKARENIA

Lovely blog.

I always remember my dad refusing to go to the seniors lunches at the Polish club (at 90) because it would be full of 'old people' - lol, he would have been by far the oldest, but we never did, 'old' in our family...

I have a friend six and a half weeks older than me, whose favourite phrase starts... at our age, we don't/can't/couldn't ... I despair of her!

129 days ago

v



QUARTERMASTER3

Funny but poignant

130 days ago

v

**NANANANA**

Wonderful blog. Just yesterday, we were talking to an older couple. Of the 4 of us she's the oldest and only 9 years my senior. My hubby was complaining about being the 2nd oldest in the auditorium - he doesn't count the women.

Sometimes when we are driving and he complains about another driver, I'll check the driver's appearance. For so long, I've referred to anyone looking over 60 as old that I hadn't realized we are way passed that. Now I've noticed he is driving a bit more like an old man. The worst thing I do is try to drive the speed limit. Since I've been doing it over 40 years, it is not an age thing.
132 days ago

**BESSHAILE**

LOL - smart dad.

Well - all my life there was that next stage to look forward to - especially on days when I had stuff I didn't want to do in whatever stage I was in. Looked forward to driving. Looked forward to getting my first apartment. Looked forward to motherhood. Looked forward to a great job. Looked forward to retirement. Well - I suppose I look forward to getting to heaven - but hey not just yet. Oh right. Look forward to the granddaughter's wedding. There. Now - let's get busy enjoying today!
133 days ago

**KNEESOCKS1945**

What a marvelous blog. Thank you!
133 days ago

**YOUcandoITNANA**

I love this blog. Thank you for writing it. I am 71 and can relate to so much of what you wrote. I don't feel old, however I do realize that life is short.
133 days ago

**SHAWFAN**

Not near "that age" yet. My DH calls himself an old geezer quite often, yet he's only two years older than myself. No, we're not there yet. He's in much better shape than I'm in too. As you and your DH are. Not through the fault of my own. Life has a way of happening differently to everyone. Thank you for sharing. Food for thought.
133 days ago

**WIMSONFLOWER**

Wow, did this ever resonate with me. The endless highway now to a narrow one with wrecks along the way. Not over 70 yet, but I am constantly reminded that I feel and act younger than I am. I refuse to be that "old geezer!" LOL! Thanks for the interesting blog!
133 days ago

**USAF-RETIRED**

Oh, wow how true
133 days ago

**THOMS1**

The truth about aging and you wrote about it so well. I asked my Mother-In-Law and my own mother one time why they didn't go to the community center and socialize with the people there and their answer was they are all so old. they were both about the same age in their 70's at the time. I think about that time and laugh because I am the same age as they were when I asked them that question and I don't go to the community center and socialize either because in my mind



those people are way too old.
133 days ago

**ALICIA363**

Great illustrations of:
1. Age is just a number.
2. Ageism.



133 days ago

**STONE815**

I find the best way to enjoy life is to appreciate what I have instead of complaining about what I don't have. Life has given me many things to be thankful for and some great friends over the years. We may be older in years but we also have memories of great times. Take care of yourself



and enjoy your life.
133 days ago



BONIFIANT

If that is an example of retired, I no longer want to be retired. Yes, I sometimes need t use a cane or walker but I refuse to be all bent over and do everything I can to stay active. I surely don't want to be a Geezeress.



134 days ago



CHERYLHURT

I'm shocked when I look in the mirror!
134 days ago



1ZIPPYC

Great blog on reflecting getting older. I know the feeling. 🧐
What your Dad said was cute!



I like the quote of Mark Twain (who by the way was my husband's relative):

"Age is an issue of mind over matter, if you don't mind it doesn't matter."

If it weren't for my arthritis slowing me down, my mind doesn't register that I'm about to turn 65.

Now signing up for Medicare soon, brings me back to reality. 🙄



I'm glad I found SP - it turned my life around for a healthier future. All the friends on here I've met along the way are really helpful, in that they keep me on track.



Stay safe and healthy!
134 days ago



UPTOIT59

That is so funny, we live in a 55+ community where we refer to our neighbors and often, ourselves, as geezers, or any number of names given to us old folks! We say it in jest but the truth is we are getting older and sometimes living among "my people" is hard and you cannot escape



the truth of aging! But it is all good and generally ok! 🕊️
134 days ago



MSLZZY

Thought provoking and I am not many years behind you.
134 days ago



PLCHAPPELL

Can't wait to travel again
134 days ago



MARYJOANNA

Great blog! Age is all relative and one person at 75 might be a lot different than another person the same age.
134 days ago



GREYDOLPHIN

Loved your blog, very thoughtful. It reminds me of my mom in the assisted living community. She complained about all the "old people" there. I refrained from telling her that many were younger than she. My mom never gave into age---til the end.
134 days ago



JAMER123

Perfect answer and a fun time line BUT it is so true. Where has the time gone. We are the sandwich generation that can no longer do this or that. Age seems to be more important than the health of the individual.
134 days ago



RACHNACH

**KEEP
SPARK
ING!**

134 days ago



THINCPL2004

I love your dad's answer! Time does fly i remember when I got my license almost 40yrs ago. Now I got my AARP card!
134 days ago





AZMOMXTWO
I like your answer
134 days ago



JANROLG
I LIKE IT!

134 days ago



ROXYHON
LOL - I like your Dad's response!!! Thanks for giving us his answer, since the question is what lured me into reading your contribution.

I LIKE IT!

What a great blog - it perfectly explains what "maturing" feels like!! The number on our driver's licence somehow seems like it should belong to someone else, since we feel so much more energetic than that number implies :)

Keep defying the odds! Keep those kayaks and climbing those stairs!! I always say to people, "I'm using the stairs while my body will let me. I can take the elevator some other time..." Thanks for the reminder that it's my job to make sure my engine is in the best shape I can keep it in :)

Well Said!

134 days ago



MAHOLMAN1
I loved your blog with all the reminders and humor.
134 days ago

Well Said!



PATSGIRLY
Thank you for sharing your thoughts. :)
134 days ago



SHERRI1BEE
I loved this! Thank you for sharing!
134 days ago



ARRO-YO
Who knew we'd be so young when we got old?
134 days ago



AKA_TROUBLE
Ageism sucks. My grandmother traveled all over the world until she was in her mid 80s. I just hope I can live up to her legacy.



134 days ago



BELLAMEAW
thank you for this! Last summer my husband (66) and I (61) wanted to adopt a puppy. I couldn't believe the number of times different organizations said 'this isn't a good fit for someone your age'. wow, seriously!!!??

At a time when prejudice is REALLY being called on the carpet, agist BS still seems to be acceptable.

134 days ago



JUNETTA2002
Thanks for sharing. When did we get so old.
134 days ago





KITTYHAWK1949



134 days ago



GRAMPIAN



Good analogy.
134 days ago



USAF-RETIRED

Youth is a state of mind
134 days ago



DEE797

Insightful blog! You and your dh are so active that I don't think about your age just how much enjoyment you get from doing things you like to do.
135 days ago



JULIJULINN



135 days ago



1DAY-ATA-TIME

Well said! I can relate too! I guess I'm not a geezer!
135 days ago



SHAKERATTLEROLL

Good blog and thank you for the insight of being denied even when old enough. Joe and you are both so active that you don't look the age you said you are. Congratulation on your continual healthy ways of life
135 days ago



PATRICIAAK

I may be getting older but (per 'my definition') I'll never be old -- old is 30 years more than me!
135 days ago



RHOOK20047

Although, I admit I am in my last part of life, I am not going to allow it to make me settle for less. I am going to strive to do the best I can each day and make the most of it. I say that a lot of "older people's" activities are purposely stored until we hit these years, as we probably wouldn't appreciate it as much had we experienced it 40 years ago. Thanks for a great reflective blog as usual. I look forward to these each day!
135 days ago



SUNSHINE20113

So lovely to read a blog from you again - and so meaningful, too. Having just had my second baby at 42, I have spent a lot of time with health care workers reminding me just how old I am. Whilst we have an inner perspective of ourselves, the world can sometimes be quite dictatorial about what we ought to be doing and when! I've come out of this experience realising that when it comes to statistics people focus on the 90% and forget about the 10% or 5% or 1% that defy the odds.
135 days ago



ETHELMERZ

Yes, time to get real, funny how we think we are younger in our mind, though. It is rather amusing, to look in the mirror, and see your mother instead. Where does it all go, and why did whomever came up with this, end it all, sort of mean, actually.
135 days ago



LIS193

Great answer!



135 days ago



MARYJEANSL

Love that definition of a geezer!
135 days ago





GETAGRIPNAN

When at primary school, teachers probably were about 23-25 but to a 5 yr old they were ancient.

My wake up call was at around 55, standing on the railway platform coming home, that same teacher didn't look that much older, but I sure did
135 days ago



SPEDED2

Late Bloomers & Baby Boomers: Success in the Second Act of Life By Lisa Yarkony, PhD
Below is the link to the wonderful article above. We're not geezers. We are in the Second Act of Life.

<https://www.nahc.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Late-Bloomers.pdf>



Thank you for another thought provoking post.
135 days ago



SAMMILESSACH

What an awesome blog!

Turning 43 soon I feel like I just turned 30.

Life seem to get more challenging each day, things are a lot different for me and Everyone no matter what age.



Live each day like it is your last, God bless.
135 days ago



WHILLSW

Your Dad's answer gave me a chuckle....we all need those chuckles....it's late so I'll say



135 days ago



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