

Pearls of Wisdom from the Class of 1962

These were written at the 50th Reunion banquet
held at The Carolina Inn on May 12, 2012.

They were transcribed as written –
with corrections made only for spelling errors.

One way or another, things usually work out.

Learn to communicate unemotionally.

Whether you think you can, or think you can't, you are probably right.

Family and Friends are life's most important things.

Life is good. I thank God I am alive today.

Carpe Diem – Seize the Day

With a smile, wisdom (if you still have it) and love, enjoy every day!

Life is short, Enjoy!

Take time to smell the roses.

Pain and suffering builds character.

Live each moment of every day as if it were your last... and love it all! Enjoy!

Unexpected things can be treasures (in the long run).

There is nothing that can happen to us that you and I, together with God's help, cannot deal with.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and he will make straight your paths. – Proverbs 3:4-5

After so much that has happened in the past 50 years, it is nice to be on the other side of troubled waters.

Rejoice each morning in the Lord.

In teaching young people, provide the resources and get out of the way.

The older I'm getting, the more I've realized how true the old cliches are – Don't judge a book by its cover – and now I've come to know that if you don't like a book, you don't have to finish it!

Drink more wine.

The perfect way is without difficulty save that it avoids picking and choosing. Only when you stop liking and disliking will all be clearly understood

The secret to happiness is gratitude.

Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances. 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

Life is a celebration; appreciate and enjoy the moment!

Go to UNC, and have Turkish friends!

Never doubt what God is doing in our midst.

Humility is the foundation of humanity.

Be Grateful. Be Generous. Be Humble.

Count your blessings, not your achievements.

Many things are revealed to the humble that are hidden from the great.

Live one day at a time.

Wear a condom.

Don't let the bastards wear you down.

Discipline is remembering what you want.

If you disagree with someone, keep to the issue and avoid 'personalities.'

Life is like a garden and even the best of gardens have a few weeds.

Smart people learn from their mistakes, wise people learn from the mistakes of others.

Don't wait until retirement to have all of your fun!

As decades pass and vision fades, it nevertheless becomes clearer that nothing stands closer in our hearts than old friends.

If you give 125% service to your clients, you don't have to worry about money.

Fly first class...or your children will.

Life is what you make it. You don't "find" yourself. You create yourself. – Carolina gave us the tools! – Maylon Little

I love my Carolina friends and Carolina basketball – Friends and Team, always #1

Just remember, tomorrow lets don't have no regrets.

Just keep grinding.

Never date a girl twice before you meet her roommate.

Enjoy the moment, it may be your last.

Always give 60% - 40% with your wife or your friends, then when you need a gift, maybe it will be there. – Sydney Harris

Guys, always consider the mother of your date.

Apparently riding the dog like a horse is FROWNED UPON BY THIS ESTABLISHMENT!!!

It's the economy, stupid.

Always remember to have your cigar box half full, not half empty.

The journey is here in the present.

Some years ago, a casual acquaintance asked while at a dinner party, "So, what is your passion these days?" At that time, I had no passion but spent the next several years finding one. In developing a passion, one cannot 'cheat.' But not doing so misses the epicenter of life.

How challenging is it to be as patient toward those we are closest to, as we were to those we dealt with professionally.

Tho' we are older, never doubt we have to give!

When we cannot build good roads for our children, we must build children strong enough for the roads they must meet. (Salvation Army) – Bill Smith

Always strive to improve yourself! (My High School Coach wrote this in my annual)

When jumping a horse over a fence, you don't look back but keep looking ahead to your next hurdle. The same is true in life.

A penny saved is a penny earned. Live within your means so you can take advantage of opportunities that present themselves.

Service to humanity is the best work of life.

Above all, be kind and love unconditionally.

Life is like a bowl of cherries, sometimes you get the fruit, sometimes the pits. After 50 years, may we know the difference!

Dream big and use patience to achieve the dream.

Life is like a roll of toilet paper... it goes faster as you get near the end of the roll.

We've been rich and we've been poor. Rich is better.

In 50 years, I've learned not to take a knife to a gun fight.

Gold is where you find it!

Life is good!

(For our present age) “If I have told you this story before, don’t stop me – I want to hear it again!”

At six, I well remember when,
I fancied all folks old at ten.
But when I turned my first decade,
Fifteen appeared more truly staid.
But when the fifteenth round I’d run,
I thought none old ‘til twenty-one.
Then, oddly, when I’d reached that age
I held that thirty made folks sage.
But when my thirtieth year was told
I said, “At two score men grow old!”
Yet two score came and found me thrifty.
And so I drew the line at fifty.
But when I reached that age I swore
None could be old until three score.
And here I am at seventy now,
As young as when at seven. I trow!
‘Tis true my hair is somewhat gray,
And that my walk is slow today;
‘Tis true these rogues about my knee
Say “Grandpa” when they speak to me;
But, bless your soul, I’m young as when
I thought all people old at ten!
Perhaps a little wiser grown—
Perhaps some old illusions flown;
But wondering still, while years have tolled,
When it is that man grows old.

- By my grandfather at age 70

I’m a Tar Heel Born – I’m a Tar Heel Bred. Like the stately long life pine, our roots are deeply embed in the Chapel Hill culture which has nourished our souls for the last 50 years – We can only hope that this great University is as proud of each of us as we are of our Alma Mater. And when I die, I’m a Tar Heel dead.

A solid foundation and thorough preparation are key ingredients for success.

Life is neither “fair or unfair”- it is what it is, and we have to deal with it. We live in the world that IS and not the world of what ought to be.

Every day is a gift – Treasure it!

The most important things in life are not things, but relationships with God, neighbors and the creative order.

Don't sweat the small stuff! It's ALL small stuff!

Take the path sounding most adventurous. Success may not follow, but valuable experience will.

Expect the unexpected.

Dance for fun and life.

Give me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change and the courage to change the things I can and the wisdom to know the difference.

Relationships are precious. Take time to nurture them.

"Real Wisdom" is often the result of life experiences gained from poor judgment and bad decisions!

You can't never always sometimes tell!

Live with three cats and you will be humble.

I did not expect to see 30 years old. Much less 71 and a 50 year reunion!

Life happens while you are expecting something else.

Nothing could be finer than to be at Carolina – Anytime!!

The three most important decisions for a man:

1. His God
2. His work
3. His wife

- By Bernard Boyd

Days are precious, friends are dear!

Kind words to friends are sometimes remembered. Harsh words to friends are seldom forgotten. One of the genuine jobs of life is learning... and that truth continues even 50 years after graduating.

Bad things are not as bad as they first appear.

We are each responsible for our own happiness. Others may be the basis for it, but they can't "make" it happen.

Why are the women at this table hotter than the men?

Grandchildren.

I've learned to cherish the friendships I've made over these many years – even when I haven't agreed with people's varied beliefs.

The secret to happiness is being content. In a place of contentment, joy and happiness emerge easily.

The greatest discovery of my generation is that a human being can alter his life by altering his attitudes – William James

Before I had a chance to get into trouble, I figured out that I should always be honest; In so doing, I do not need to remember what story I had told to whom. The NC motto of the state is “Esse Quam Videri” Loosely translated; “To be rather than to seem to be.

Life is a gift of grace – and each person is blessed by it whether living one minute, or one hundred years. Thinking of others as “same” or “different” is not necessary.

Your own mind has the power to create Heaven or Hell.

When the going gets tough, the tough get going.

The sky is Carolina blue because God gave Carolina first choice over Dook.

What I think about you isn't about you, it's about me.

Life can be a bowl of cherries once you learn to spit out the 'pits.'

Truth is forever, knowledge is changeable.

I read this a long time ago and it is so true - means more and more to me as time goes by:
Rich: It's not how much you have OR where you are going OR even what you are. Rich is who you have beside you.

One's pride will bring him low, but he who is humble will obtain honor. Proverbs 29:23

Laughter is what makes life's troubles an adventure!

Live each day as if it is your last.

Stop and smell the roses. Especially in Chapel Hill.

Follow your dreams and passions!

Life is short – eat dessert first!

A Carolina education is a great preparation for life and for retirement!

Make new friends but keep the old. One is silver, and the other is GOLD.

Trust in the Lord.

There is no limit to God. There is no limit to Love.

Don't second guess yourself; you will lose.

Pride goes before a fall. Humility before honor.

Life's greatest pleasure is to do a good deed in private and have it discovered by accident.

I have little wisdom, and try not to show it.

Life is like a box of chocolates.

Never stop laughing!

The mind is like a parachute, it only works when it is open.

Don't miss the joy!

The best gift for your children/grandchildren is a debt free education.

If you are thinking about doing something, do it, then you will never look back and say "I wish I had..."

Keep the same house and same wife after 60.

A person who knows everything learns nothing.

Four years at UNC can seem like an eternity but it is only a stepping stone in the scheme of life. Savor the moment.

Live life until you die.

Think slowly. Act quickly.

"You are constantly invited to be who you are." – Henry David Thoreau

The grass is never greener elsewhere.

Second best is never good enough.

GO HEELS!

Y'all, please come to the 100th Reunion!

I want to know trust rather than the spin that comes from too many aspects of life.

"The world is not respectable; it is mortal, confused, deluded forever, but it is filled with beauty and love, shot through with courage and laughter. And in these, the spirit blooms!" – George Santayana from Dedee Zanetti Rigg

The journey through these 50 years has been terrific!

Laugh a lot. Live life to the fullest. Love one another. Give thanks to God.

The greatest joy is to teach others what we have learned in your career and life.

Laugh and have fun every day.

Each of us is the center of our universe – when we are happy and confident, we can help others.

Health is key in our lives. Why wait so long to work on it?

Keep on keeping on...

Be nice to others. I say this to my grandchildren. – Blanche Stevens

First thing in the morning, read the obituaries, for the obvious reason. Then read the funnies for little philosophies of life to help you get through the day.

The ways of nature and of wisdom are never far apart.

Breathe In; Breathe Out; Repeat.

The things that matter most in life are those that cannot be bought or sold at any price.

“De Minimus Non Curat lex” (the law does not concern itself with trifles)

Yes dear – you are right!

“If at first you don’t succeed, keep on sucking until you do succeed” – Mrs. Mary Farrow, My 8th Grade Teacher – Walker Stevens ‘62

Wisdom comes with age.

Don’t underestimate what you can accomplish if you keep trying.

Remember, when defeat looks inevitable, we come back two points at a time. We can overcome adversity.

Don’t look back – Something might be gaining on you

The only thing certain in life is change, and how we deal with it through the years is who we become.

The way to stay young is to surround yourself with younger friends!

Life may not be about how fast you run, or how high you climb, but how well you bounce!

Life is short, live each day to the fullest.

Where your eyes go is where you will go, unless your heart redirects.

We love. We remember. We care.

Age is mind over matter – if you don’t mind, it won’t matter. – Wade Hargrove quoting Satchell Page

I've found that no matter how hard I try, I can never get everything done that I thought needed, so I finally quit worrying about it.

“And even if we are involved with important things, even if we attain honor or fall into misfortune, still let us remember how good it once was here, when we were all together, united by a good and kind feeling, that made us better perhaps than we are.”