

Editorial

Birthdays are Blessings *Especially those over fifty!*

A few of us Baby Boomers are at the point where a look in the mirror reflects a face that looks like mother or daddy, but its O. K.! The great thing about is we have probably reached a point in our lives where a few wrinkles, a little gray hair and a little steak and potato budge is nothing to agonize over.



A few weeks ago I celebrated one of my, over-the-hump, birthdays. One of my closest friends, who was also a classmate, celebrated her's a week later. I was happy and light-hearted about my birthday, even laughing under my breath thinking, this is nothing to worry about, my friends and classmates are going right along with me!

I wish I had the knowledge forty years ago that I have now. I'd probably have

fewer wrinkles, a little less gray hair and be a multi-millionair to boot.

I've reached a place in life, like most of my friends where I don't sweat the small stuff. Where I take one day at a time, enjoying each simple pleasure, a nice ride from home to the city, a few hours with good friends or family, good church service and yes, the smiling face of an old friend that I haven't seen in forty years.

- Here's something to think about:
- *Smile alot. It costs nothing and is beyond price.
 - *Every so often, invite the person behind you to go ahead of you.
 - *Life will sometimes hand you a magical moment, savor it.

Then, two weeks ago I attended the funeral of Mr. J. W. Carter, former teacher, neighbor and beloved father. It was a beautiful service befitting him. There were so many of his former students there that it could have been mistaken for a reunion. The school closed in 1968, mind you, so the youngest to even have attended kindergarden would be at least into their early forties. To make a long story short, afterwards as I walked past groups standing around the outside of the church and at the dinner, I heard parts of conversations like, "Did you see So and So? she looks great for her age", and "Did you see So and So? I haven't seen him in forty years."

Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married

Tyler Perry's new movie, **Why Did I Get Married?** opened October 12th in 2000 movies and topped out number one with over \$21 million dollars in tickets sold while movies of his mainstream counterparts opened in 3,000 theaters. 'Set in a Rocky Mountain resort, "Yet though every action is telegraphed — as are the moral lessons — Madea's absence allows Mr. Perry to explore a less cartoonish universe.

"Why Did I Get Married?" follows four couples who meet each year for a therapeutic vacation. Friends since college, they converge to discuss their relationships and address marital difficulties. This being a Tyler Perry film, there is much to discuss; we also know there will be secrets revealed, sermons delivered and forgiveness sought. No violence, no nudity, no sex, if you haven't seen it, go! It's the movie to see!

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