

A Few Things to Which I Am Unaccustomed

By Hap Hansen

I looked up the word 'unaccustomed' in the dictionary. It means briefly, not customary, not usual or common. So here are a few things to which I am unaccustomed:

-Two healthy young men hogging the sidewalk and refusing to give way to either women or old men.

-Holding a door open so a lady can walk into a store and she refuses to acknowledge the courtesy. When that happens, I will sometimes say, "Don't forget to tip your doorman!"

-Someone walking their dog on a twenty foot leash and I have to wait for them to pass, while the dog yaps and snarls at me. The yapping dog then walks slowly across a busy street while its handler continues to be twenty feet behind.

-Having a young waitress call me 'Hon' and when she brings the bill the only thing she says is, "There you go." Please, when you bring the bill, just say "Thank you." I could get accustomed to that!

-Having a waiter do his business in the bathroom and then walk out to serve customers without washing his hands.

-Having the driver behind you honk his horn the minute the light turns from red to green.

-Having a business cashier take three lengthy phone calls while I'm waiting patiently to pay my bill.

-How could anyone ever get accustomed to the constant barrage of lawyer ads on TV promising us millions of dollars if we are injured in an automobile accident? As the old saying goes, "There oughta be a law!"

-I'm not unaccustomed anymore to see people driving their cars or walking across a busy street with a cell phone attached to their ear.

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-All of these unaccustomed events could make someone depressed! Not for me! Being depressed over someone else's action is unapologetically, uncompassionately unaccustomed.