

What Did You Do Today Grandpa?

by Harry Zirkelbach 07-10-2010

That question from the grandchild is an ice breaker.

Never certain how serious the question may be, but know, too many details and eyes do not widen in wonder. Judge and respond to the attention of this visitor.

None are interested in the research going into the 500 Words on Monday Writers Hour, the re-writes, edits, my interest in the topic. Best to begin, "Completes another piece for the Windsor Gardens Writers group", then prepare for an improbable follow-up.

Even less interesting to the progeny, tasks as Building Rep, from meetings, answering inquiries, obtaining replies from experts, notifying all residents when needed. When one happens to be humorous, milk this with the grandchild.

Do you judge this as worthy?

Recently the stool in the 2nd Floor Laundry Room was broken. It is essential, used as an aid in sorting, after washing and drying laundry. For this repair, I speak to the resident Handy Man on a Sunday evening. Early Monday, a call from another resident; the stool is missing. I explain to her, then prepare a Notice for all Residents on the topic for posting on the Laundry Room Bulletin Board.

In taking it to post, there's the repaired stool.

Grandchild though it was dumb too.

I was reminded of the definition of an Italian Split Second, where patience is nonexistent ... it is that time it takes for the waiting driver, 5th in your line, to sit on the horn until he gets moving.

Questions from the youngsters tend to be repetitive, one visit to the next.

"Why do you have a garden grandpa? The vegetables we get at the store are better looking than the stuff you have picked". A conversation ended before kick-off.

"Do any neighbors have Cable grandpa? There is a show I want to watch. Well grandpa, you could be more polite when you say no."

"Let's go to your Saturday morning Mens Club! There have donuts and juice before the meeting. Wait grandpa, let's be clear, I don't want to stay and hear another talk on Social Security. You get it already, and I'll never get it.

Everyone I know except you and grandma, say so."

"Why can't I swim with you in the outdoor pool after noon? You know I can swim,

don't need a life guar ,,,. Boy, you people sure have a lot of rules, don't you!."

"Grandpa, that picture of me on your wall was taken last year. I'll have Mom get you a new one. I'm older now, and the shirt I'm wear this year is better looking."

"Grandpa, you had better take me home. A neighbor just called, said she was taking all the kids to the Rockies Baseball game, and I have to get ready."

"Bye Grandpa, You sure don't do anything interesting, do you?"

Don't remember ever having control of that conversation.

The visit is a daze,

Isn't that child adorable?

Can't wait for the parents to need a baby sitter again,
and we can renew our conversation..

