

Days of Your Life..... I was feeling old until, I started thinking on these things. Up until now, I pretty much considered myself to be TD's contemporary. Here a few events that made me think otherwise.

TD BURNS:

Born, April 22, 1926 (19 years before creation of me was even a thought in anyone's mind)

Graduated Wadesboro High School 1944 (less than year before I was born, guess by then, I was a thought in someone's mind.

Discharged from the Navy in 1946 (I was just one year old)

Married Jean in 1947 (I was just two years old)

In the 1950(s) He became seriously interested in natural sciences, chemistry, biology, mineralogy, geology, paleontology (dinosaur fossils) & astronomy (I was between 5 & 15 years old and probably knew nothing more than how to spell (not pronounce) such words **He's 24**

In 1961 TD & Jean opened Science Hobbies. THE FIRST ALL SCIENCE HOBBY SHOP IN AMERICA. (I was 16 years old, in the tenth grade, fighting for every passing grade in any science or math class.. clearly not in his league). **He's 35**

In 1983, they created a second business, Science & Nature Distributors (I am 38 years old and thinking I'm getting seriously old) **He's 57**

In 1989, they opened their third business venture, Science Educational Products. (I am 44 years old) **He's 63**

In 2006, I meet TD & Jean (I am 61, thinking very old years) **He's 80.** From then until now, I haven't thought about ages or age differences. We became friends and when I get to visit and share a day and a meal with TD and Company, we all just seem like life-long friends.... No age thing is evident. When TD gets his red rolling walker (and I have one at home just like it & I usually leave it at home), off he goes and, me, walking without any aid (they say "pride knows no pain"... it's not true every prideful step I take is painful)... I cannot keep up with him. Ride with him around Charlotte, Matthews (a very heavy, busy traffic area) and the drive is as smooth as silk, not a single instance of concern... that's when he's driving. When I'm driving, he's a very alert navigator and I may have caused his pace maker to say "Whoa" a couple of times.

APRIL 22, 2016 – He's 90 wonderful years young. (Y'all, will have to do some quick math to know my age today (except my family who knows how far ahead and how far behind me they are). Every time one of the age comparison dates came up, while writing this, I had to do the math for my own age... like I said math isn't my thing. That's what they made calculators and xcel computer programs for. Now with TD being **90** and I am **71**, I still feel like we are age contemporaries and I have learned so much from him that I would never have even thought

about, that were commonplace in his world. But best and most importantly, I saw, felt and learned firsthand, unconditional love between he and Jean and between them and everyone in their vast circle of friends and family. And when I was with them and now when I am with him, the line between family and friend becomes very blurred and it's all just LOVE AND GREAT RESPECT!

Sometimes in life you will find a special friend that you can count on, someone who changes your life by simply becoming a part of it. Someone who makes you feel good, smile at will and laugh uncontrollably. Someone who will show you there are still good people in the world. Someone who will stand by you when you feel you are all alone. Someone who will make your life better by just becoming a part of theirs. If you have one of these friends in your life, you are blessed. I have T.D. and I am greatly blessed! **RAISE YOUR GLASSES WITH ME IN WISHING THE ONE AND ONLY THOMAS DAVID BURNS, A HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY AND OUR WISHES FOR AS MANY MORE AS HE DESIRES TO HAVE! "HAPPY BIRTHDAY, TD". (MARILYN SINGS)**