

# Humor

I don't feel any different as I get older. However, I do notice that, when I am out biking, a lot of other bikers seem to be passing me and I don't seem to be passing anybody.

Thomas Sowell, *Random Thoughts* ([www.jewishworldreview.com](http://www.jewishworldreview.com)), 9 January 2007

Sometimes you need a vacation just to recover from all the preparations you made before going on vacation.

Thomas Sowell, *Random Thoughts* ([www.jewishworldreview.com](http://www.jewishworldreview.com)), 9 January 2007

A smile is the shortest distance between two people.

Victor Borge (1909-2000)

On our recent trip (August 2011) to western Washington, we had our Garmin, iPhone maps, a printout from Map quest, and two hard copy maps, and we still made several wrong turns. Go figure!

James Nickel

I didn't have time to write you a short letter, so I wrote a long one.

Blaise Pascal, cited in Ron Aharoni, *Arithmetic for Parents*, p. 9.

Whenever I can I always watch the Detroit Tigers on radio.

President Gerald Ford

I believe in the discipline of silence and could talk about it for hours.

George Bernard Shaw

I think I should like to take Thomas' *Guide to Practical Ship Building* when what book he would take along if he knew he would be shipwrecked on an island.

G. K. Chesterton

I remember the first theological statement I ever heard. My mother's words to me were, "God help you if you ever do that again."

Charles Swindoll

It ain't those parts of the Bible that I can't understand that bothers me, its the parts I do understand.

Mark Twain

Three can keep a secret as long as two of them are dead.

Benjamin Franklin

Best thing wrong with Jack Fisher is nothing.

Casey Stengel (1966), comments about his former team's top pitcher

Good pitching always stops good hitting, and vice versa.

Bob Veale, Pittsburgh Pirates pitcher (1966)

The batter still hits a grounder. But in this case the first bounce is 360 feet away.

Dan Quisenberry, Kansas City Royals reliever, on what happens when his sinker isn't working (1980)

I ain't doing a damn thing, and I don't start until noon.

Bum Phillips, ex-NFL coach, on how he was spending his retirement (1988)

Andre Dawson has a bruised knee and is listed as day-to-day .... Aren't we all?

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Vin Scully, Los Angeles Dodgers broadcaster (1991)

No, but they gave me one anyway.

Elden Campbell, Los Angeles Lakers forward, on if he had earned his degree from Clemson (1991)

The word *genius* isn't applicable in football. A genius is a guy like Norman Einstein.

Joe Theismann, former Washington Redskins quarterback (1992)

You know you're having a bad day when the fifth inning rolls around and they drag the warning track.

Mike Flanagan, Baltimore Orioles pitcher (1992)

I don't have the first clue who he is talking about, because all I worry about is Jerome.

Jerome James, Seattle SuperSonics center, on coach Nate McMillan's charge that he was selfish (2003)

## Some one-liners from Groucho Marx:

*Julius Henry "Groucho" Marx (1890-1977) was an American comedian, actor, comic vocalist and game show host of "You Bet Your Life" from 1947-1961, both on radio and television. He also performed in Vaudeville and Broadway. A master of the one-liners, he is considered one of America's greatest comedians.*

Outside of a dog, a book is man's best friend. Inside of a dog it's too dark to read.

Time flies like an arrow; fruit flies like a banana.

I never forget a face, but in your case I'll be glad to make an exception.

Those are my principles, and if you don't like them ... well, I have others.

I sent the club a wire stating: Please accept my resignation. I don't want to belong to any club that will accept me as a member.

I've had a perfectly wonderful evening, but this wasn't it.

He may look like an idiot and talk like an idiot but don't let that fool you. He really is an idiot.

If you're not having fun, you're doing something wrong.

If a black cat crosses your path, it signifies that the animal is going somewhere.

While money can't buy happiness, it certainly lets you choose your own form of misery.

Some people claim that marriage interferes with romance. There's no doubt about it. Anytime you have a romance, your wife is bound to interfere.

I have nothing but respect for you—and not much of that.

Why should I care about posterity? What's posterity ever done for me?

Anyone who says he can see through women is missing a lot.

Getting older is no problem. You just have to live long enough.

Before I speak, I have something important to say.

I must confess, I've got the brain of a four-year-old. I'll bet he was glad to be rid of it.

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I was born at a very early age.

Next time I see you, remind me not to talk to you.

My favorite poem is the one that starts ‘Thirty days hath September’ because it actually tells you something.

If you’ve heard this story before, don’t stop me, because I’d like to hear it again.

One morning I shot an elephant in my pajamas. How he got into my pajamas I’ll never know.

Behind every successful man is a woman, behind her is his wife.

Marriage is a wonderful institution, but who wants to live in an institution?

I was married by a judge. I should have asked for a jury.

She got her looks from her father. He’s a plastic surgeon.

I find television very educational. Every time someone switches it on I go into another room and read a good book.

Money frees you from doing things you dislike. Since I dislike doing nearly everything, money is handy.

No man goes before his time—unless the boss leaves early.

Learn from the mistakes of others. You can never live long enough to make them all yourself.

When you’re in jail, a good friend will be trying to bail you out. A best friend will be in the cell next to you saying, ‘Damn, that was fun.’

From the moment I picked up your book until I put it down, I was convulsed with laughter. Some day I intend reading it.

Humor is reason gone mad.

The secret of life is honesty and fair dealing. If you can fake that, you’ve got it made.

The first thing which I can record concerning myself is, that I was born. These are wonderful words. This life, to which neither time nor eternity can bring diminution—this everlasting living soul, began. My mind loses itself in these depths.

## Some Yogi Berra wisdom:

*Yogi Berra (1925-2015) was a Major catcher (New York Yankees) and manager.*

I will not answer any questions that I do not have an answer for.

Pair up in threes.

Baseball is 90% mental—the other half is physical.

This is like *deja vu* all over again.

You can observe a lot just by watching.

He must have made that before he died (in reference to a Steve McQueen movie).

I’d find the fellow who lost it, and, if he was poor, I’d return it (*When asked what he would do if he*

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*found a million dollars).*

You've got to be very careful if you don't know where you're going, because you might not get there.

I knew I was going to take the wrong train, so I left early.

If you don't know where you are going, you will wind up somewhere else.

If you can't imitate him, don't copy him.

You better cut the pizza in four pieces because I'm not hungry enough to eat six.

It was impossible to get a conversation going; everybody was talking too much.

Slump? I ain't in no slump. I just ain't hitting.

A nickel isn't worth a dime today.

Nobody goes there anymore; it's too crowded.

I take a two hour nap, from one o'clock to four.

If you come to a fork in the road, take it.

I made a wrong mistake.

I always thought that record would stand until it was broken.

If the fans don't come out to the ball park, you can't stop them.

You should always go to other people's funerals; otherwise, they won't come to yours.

I didn't really say everything I said.

The future ain't what it used to be.

Even Napoleon had his Watergate.

Half the lies they tell about me aren't true.

He hits from both sides of the plate. He's amphibious.

You wouldn't have won if we'd beaten you.

## **Some Satchel Paige wisdom:**

*Satchel Paige (ca. 1905-1982) was a long-time pitcher for the old Negro Leagues. He also played for several Major League teams in the late 1940s, early 1950s (retiring in 1953). In 1965 (at age 61), he pitched three scoreless innings for the Kansas City Athletics, making him the oldest ever player to play in the Major Leagues.*

Age is a question of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter.

I ain't ever had a job, I just always played baseball.

I don't generally like running. I believe in training by rising gently up and down from the bench.

I never rush myself. See, they can't start the game without me.

I use my single windup, my double windup, my triple windup, my hesitation windup, my no windup. I also use my step-n-pitch-it, my submariner, my sidearmer and my bat dodger. Man's got to do what

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he's got to do.

If a man can beat you, walk him.

It's funny what a few no-hitters do for a body.

My feet ain't got nothing to do with my nickname, but when folks get it in their heads that a feller's got big feet, soon the feet start looking big.

One time I snuck a ball on with me and when I went to winding up, I threw one of them balls to first and one to second. I was so smooth I picked off both runners and fanned the batter without that ump or the other team even knowing it.

The only change is that baseball has turned Paige from a second class citizen to a second class immortal.

There never was a man on earth who pitched as much as me. But the more I pitched, the stronger my arm would get.

When a batter swings and I see his knees move, I can tell just what his weaknesses are then I just put the ball where I know he can't hit it.

Ain't no man can avoid being born average, but there ain't no man got to be common.

I never threw an illegal pitch. The trouble is, once in a while I would toss one that ain't never been seen by this generation.

Just take the ball and throw it where you want to. Throw strikes. Home plate don't move.

They said I was the greatest pitcher they ever saw ... I couldn't understand why they couldn't give me no justice.

Don't look back. Something might be gaining on you.

Don't pray when it rains if you don't pray when the sun shines.

How old would you be if you didn't know how old you are?

Work like you don't need the money. Love like you've never been hurt. Dance like nobody's watching.

You win a few, you lose a few. Some get rained out. But you got to dress for all of them.

My pitching philosophy is simple; you gotta keep the ball off the fat part of the bat.

Don't eat fried food, it angers up the blood.

Wille Mays on Satchel Paige:

“Satchel Paige had a very, very good fastball ... but the first time I faced Satchel, he threw me a little breaking ball just to see what I could do, and I hit it off the top of the fence.

I got a double.

When I got to second base, Satchel told the third baseman, ‘Let me know when that little boy comes back up.’

Three innings later, I go to kneel down in the on-deck circle, and I hear the third baseman say, ‘There he is.’

Satch looked at the third baseman, and then he looked at me.

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I walk halfway to home plate and he says, 'Little boy.'

I say, 'Yes, sir?' because Satch was much older than I am, so I was trying to show respect.

Satch walked halfway to home plate and said, 'Little boy, I'm not going to trick you. I'm going to throw you three fastballs and you're going to go sit down.'

And I'm saying in my mind, 'I DOOON'T THINK SOOO.'

If Satch threw me three of the same pitch, I'm going to hit it somewhere.

I turned to the catcher and asked, 'What does he mean?'

The catcher told me, 'He's going to throw you three fast balls. Nothing else.'

Satchel threw me two fastballs and I just swung ...

I swung right through it ....

and the third ball he threw, and I tell people this all the time, he threw the ball and as he let go, he said, 'Go sit down.'

This is while the ball was in the air.

Yes, he struck me out with three pitches.

He was just magnificent."

Seventeen-year-old Willie Mays.