15 Funny Short Stories for Seniors

Clean, large-print stories to read aloud

1. Can You Hear That?
2. Sharing and Marriage
3. Do You Know Who I Am?
4. What’s the Name of That Restaurant?
5. A Cop Pulled Over an Elderly Man
6. Her Fourth Marriage
7. Will I Live to 80?
8. The Retirement Watch
9. Grandpa's History Report
10. The Medication List
11. The Video Call
12. The Anniversary Secret
13. The Senior Discount
14. Lost in the Parking Lot
15. The Glasses in the Fridge

1. Can You Hear That?

An old man decided his old wife was getting hard of hearing. He called her doctor to make an appointment to have her hearing checked.

The doctor said he could see her in two weeks, and meanwhile, there was a simple, informal test the husband could do to give the doctor some idea of the problem.

“Here’s what you do. Start about 40 feet away from her and speak in a normal conversational tone, and see if she hears you. If not, go to 30 feet, then 20 feet, and so on until you get a response.”

So that evening she’s in the kitchen cooking dinner, and he’s in the living room. He says to himself, “I’m about 40 feet away, let’s see what happens.”

“Honey, what’s for supper?” No response.

So he moves to the other end of the room, about 30 feet away. “Honey, what’s for supper?” No response.

He moves into the dining room, about 20 feet away. “Honey, what’s for supper?” No response. On to the kitchen door, only 10 feet away. “Honey, what’s for supper?” No response.

So he walks right up behind her. “Honey, what’s for supper?”

“For the fifth time, CHICKEN!”

2. Sharing and Marriage

An old man and his wife went to their local fast food restaurant. The man ordered one hamburger, French fries and a drink. He unwrapped the plain hamburger, carefully cut it in half and placed one half in front of his wife.

He then counted out the French fries, divided them into two piles and neatly placed one pile in front of his wife. He took a sip of the drink, his wife took a sip, and then he set the cup down between them. As he began to eat his few bites of hamburger, the people around them were looking over and whispering.

Obviously they were thinking, “That poor old couple. All they can afford is one meal for the two of them.”

As the man began to eat his fries, a young man came to the table and politely offered to buy another meal for the old couple. The old man said they were just fine. They were used to sharing everything.

People closer to the table noticed the little old lady hadn’t eaten a bite. She sat there watching her husband eat and occasionally took turns sipping the drink. Again, the young man came over and begged to buy them another meal. This time the old woman said, “No, thank you. We are used to sharing everything.”

Finally, as the old man finished and was wiping his face neatly with the napkin, the young man came over again to the little old

lady, who had yet to eat a single bite, and asked, “What is it you are waiting for?”

She answered, “The teeth!”

3. Do You Know Who I Am?

One day a famous old celebrity went to a nursing home to see his old friends and find out how everyone was doing. When he got there, everyone greeted him right away because they recognized him instantly. He said hi to all of his friends warmly, but then he noticed one man who didn't say anything to him or even give him a glance.

This was puzzling. Didn't the man know who he was? Surely he'd seen some of his movies or his TV show! He finally decided to talk to the man.

The celebrity went up to the old man, stood in front of him and asked, "Do you know who I am?"

The old man looked at him and said quickly, "No, but you can go to the front desk and they'll tell you."

4. What's the Name of That Restaurant?

An elderly couple had dinner at another couple's house, and after eating, the wives left the table and went into the kitchen. The two gentlemen were talking, and one said, "Last night we went out to a new restaurant, and it was really great. I would recommend it very highly."

The other man asked, "What is the name of the restaurant?"

The first man thought and thought, and finally asked, "What is the name of that flower you give to someone you love? You know, the one that's red and has thorns."

"Do you mean a rose?"

"Yes, that's the one," replied the man. Then he turned toward the kitchen and yelled, "Rose, what's the name of that restaurant we went to last night?"

5. A Cop Pulled Over an Elderly Man

An elderly man was spotted driving erratically down the street. When he passed a police car, he was quickly stopped. The time was 2 a.m.

The officer got out and came to the driver's window. "Where are you going this late?"

The man replied, "I'm on my way to a lecture about alcohol abuse and the effects it has on the human body, as well as smoking and staying out late."

The officer asked, "Really? Who's giving that lecture at this time of night?"

The man replied, "That would be my wife."

6. Her Fourth Marriage

A local news station was interviewing an 80-year-old woman about why she had recently married for the fourth time. They wanted to know her secret for finding love again and again.

The interviewer asked her a few questions about her life and what it felt like to be a bride again at 80. Then he asked what her new husband did for a living.

“He’s a funeral director,” she answered.

The reporter was surprised and asked if she would mind telling him a little about her first three husbands and what they did for a living.

She paused for a few moments to reflect on all those years. Then a smile came to her face, and she explained proudly that she had first married a banker when she was in her 20s, then a circus ringmaster in her 40s, a preacher in her 60s, and now, in her 80s, a funeral director.

The interviewer looked at her, quite astonished, and asked why she had married four men with such different careers.

She smiled and explained, “I married one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready and four to go.”

7. Will I Live to 80?

I had recently picked a new primary care physician. After two visits and exhaustive lab tests, he said I was doing “fairly well” for my age. A little concerned about that comment, I couldn’t resist asking him, “Do you think I’ll live to be 80?”

He asked, “Do you smoke tobacco or drink beer or wine?”

“Oh no,” I replied. “I’m not doing drugs, either.”

Then he asked, “Do you eat rib-eye steaks and barbecued ribs?”

I said, “No, my other doctor said that all red meat is very unhealthy.”

“Do you spend a lot of time in the sun, like playing golf, sailing, hiking or bicycling?”

“No, I don’t,” I said.

He asked, “Do you gamble, drive fast cars, or have a lot of sex?”

“No,” I said. “I don’t do any of those things.”

He looked at me and said, “Then why do you want to live to 80?”

8. The Retirement Watch

After forty-one years at the hardware store, Harold finally retired. On his last afternoon the whole staff gathered by the paint counter, and the owner made a short speech and handed him a small box wrapped in silver paper.

Inside was a gold watch.

Harold held it up so everyone could see. "Forty-one years," he said, "I've been watching that clock on the wall, waiting to go home. And now you give me one I can watch at home."

Everyone laughed, and that evening he proudly showed the watch to his wife.

She looked at it, then at him. "Good," she said. "Now you'll know exactly how long you've been in my way."

9. Grandpa's History Report

Ten-year-old Lily had a school assignment: interview someone who lived through history.

She picked her grandpa, who was thrilled. He talked for two hours. He told her about the moon landing, about rotary phones, about driving across the country with a paper map and no air conditioning. Lily took careful notes.

A week later she brought the report home with a big red A on top. Grandpa read it with pride until he reached the first line.

"My grandpa is very, very old," it said. "He watched the moon landing on a TV the size of a suitcase that was mostly made of wood."

Underneath, the teacher had written a note: "Please thank your grandfather for his help. I had that TV too."

10. The Medication List

At his yearly checkup, Walter was handed a clipboard by the nurse. "Please list all your current medications," she said.

Walter sat down and started writing. Ten minutes later he had filled the front of the page, turned it over and filled the back, and he came to the desk to ask for a second sheet.

The nurse raised her eyebrows. "That's quite a lot of medications for one person."

"Oh, they're not all mine," Walter said. "Half of them are my wife's. She sends me to every appointment because I'm the one who remembers the medicine."

"And what does she remember?"

"Where I parked."

11. The Video Call

For her 80th birthday, Edna's grandchildren gave her a new smartphone and set up a family video call so everyone could wish her a happy birthday at once.

At seven o'clock, nine faces appeared on the screen. Edna answered the call, said "Hello, hello!" and pressed the phone firmly to her ear, the way she had answered every phone since 1958.

For twenty minutes, the whole family sang, told stories and caught up, all while looking at a very close view of Grandma's left ear.

At the end, Edna beamed. "Wasn't that lovely? It's so nice to finally see everybody's faces."

Her grandson said gently, "Grandma, we only saw your ear."

Edna patted her hair. "Well, that's my good side."

12. The Anniversary Secret

Frank and Ruth celebrated their 50th anniversary at the same little Italian restaurant where they'd had their first date.

When the waiter heard it was their golden anniversary, he brought a free dessert and asked the question everyone asks. "Fifty years! What's your secret?"

Frank leaned back proudly. "Simple. We never go to bed angry."

The waiter smiled. "That's beautiful advice."

Ruth picked up her fork. "It's true. One year we stayed up arguing until Thursday."

13. The Senior Discount

For years, George refused the senior discount at the movie theater. He was 70, but he didn't feel 70, and he certainly wasn't going to ask some teenager behind the counter for a cheaper ticket.

Then one Saturday, the young cashier rang up his ticket and quietly gave him the senior price without a word.

George was offended. "Excuse me, young lady. You didn't even ask me how old I am."

"No, sir," she said kindly. "But you did ask me to repeat the price three times."

14. Lost in the Parking Lot

Sam and his wife Carol came out of the grocery store with a full cart and no idea where they had parked.

Sam was sure it was in row C. It wasn't. Then he was sure it was row F. It wasn't there either. After twenty minutes of marching up and down the lot, Carol sat down on a bench by the entrance and let him keep searching.

Finally a teenager walking past took pity on him. "Sir, press the button on your key."

Sam pressed it. A car horn honked right in front of the bench, where Carol was sitting with her hands folded.

"You knew it was there the whole time?" Sam asked.

"Of course," Carol said. "The doctor said you need 10,000 steps a day. You're welcome."

15. The Glasses in the Fridge

Dorothy spent the whole morning looking for her reading glasses. She checked the bedside table, the bathroom, the car and every pocket she owned. Finally she asked her husband, Bill, to help.

Bill searched for ten minutes before he opened the refrigerator for a glass of milk. There were her glasses, folded neatly on top of the milk carton.

"Dorothy!" he called. "Why on earth are your glasses in the fridge?"

"Well," she said, "how else was I supposed to read the date on the milk?"

Bill shook his head and laughed. Then he stopped. "While we're at it, have you seen my car keys?"

"Butter dish," said Dorothy, without looking up. "Where they always are."