



**Remember When**

**Condensed and annotated  
by  
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### Introduction

Welcome to this edition, a walk down memory lane and a dissertation about where we are as a society. . .

I hope that this may cause you to pause and consider where we've been, where we are, and where we're going.

In thoughts we live,

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Jackson Koller". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**REMEMBER WHEN:****Remember When Page 4**

1. Mom was at home when the kids got home from school.
2. When nobody owned a purebred dog.
3. When a quarter was a decent allowance and another quarter a huge bonus.
4. When you'd reach into a muddy gutter for a penny.
5. When all of your male teachers wore neckties and female teachers had their hair done and wore high heels.
6. When you got your windshield cleaned, oil checked and gas pumped without asking, all for free, every time, and, you didn't pay for air, and, you got trading stamps to boot.
7. When it was considered a great privilege to be taken out to dinner at a real restaurant with your parents.
8. When the worst thing you could do at school was smoke in the bathrooms, flunk a test or chew gum.
9. When a '57 Chevy was everyone's dream car, to cruise, peel out, lay rubber or watch submarine races.
10. When people went steady and girls wore a class ring with an inch of tape so it would fit her finger.
11. When no one ever asked where the car keys were because they were always in the car, in the ignition, and the doors were never locked.
12. When you got in big trouble if you accidentally locked the doors at home, since no one ever had a key.
13. Lying on your back on the grass with your friends and saying things like; That cloud looks like a ...
14. Remember jumping waves at the ocean for hours in that cold water.
15. And playing baseball with no adults to help kids with the rules of the game because baseball was not a psychological group learning experience, it was a game.
16. Remember when stuff from the store came without safety caps and hermetic seals because no one had yet tried to poison a perfect stranger.
17. And with all our progress, don't you wish, just once, you could slip back in time and savor the slower pace and share it with the children of today.
18. Remember when being sent to the principal's office was nothing compared to the fate that awaited a misbehaving student at home. Basically, we were in fear for our lives, but it wasn't because of drive by shootings, drugs, gangs, etc. Our parents and grandparents were a much bigger threat! But we all survived because their love was greater than the threat.
19. Go back with me for a minute.... Before the Internet or the MAC... before semi automatics and crack before SEGA or Super Nintendo... Way back .... I'm talking about:
  20. hide and go seek at dusk,
  21. red light, green light,
  22. kick the can,
  23. playing kickball or dodge ball until your porch light came on,
  24. and mother may I,
  25. red rover,
  26. hula hoops,



27. roller skating to music,
28. running through the sprinkler...
29. And... Catching lightning bugs in a jar;
30. Christmas morning;
31. your first day of school;
32. bedtime prayers and goodnight kisses;
33. climbing trees;
34. getting an ice cream off the ice cream truck;
35. a million mosquito bites
36. sticky fingers;
37. jumping on the bed;
38. pillow fights;
39. running till you were out of breath,
40. laughing so hard your stomach hurt;
41. being tired from playing;
42. your first crush...remember that?
43. I'm not finished yet....
44. Kool-aid was the drink of summer;
45. toting your friends on your handle bars;
46. wearing your new shoes on the first day of school,
47. class field trips.
48. Didn't that feel good, just to go back and say, Yeah, I remember that!
49. There's nothing like the good old days. They were good then, and they're good now when we think about them. Share some of these thoughts with a friend who can relate, then share it with someone that missed out on them.  
I want to go back to the time
50. When.....
51. Decisions were made by going eeny-meeny-miney-mo;
52. And mistakes were corrected by simply exclaiming, do it over!
53. Race issue meant arguing about who ran the fastest;
54. Money issues were handled by whoever was the banker in Monopoly.
55. Catching fireflies could happily occupy an entire evening;
56. And it wasn't odd to have two or three best friends.
57. Being old referred to anyone over 20.
58. And the worst thing you could catch from the opposite sex was cooties.
59. Elvis was televised from the waist up because his hip gyrations were considered too risqué.
60. And Jack Parr got into trouble for saying water closet on the air.
61. Contrast that with the pornography now on primetime.
62. Scrapes and bruises were kissed and made better; it was a big deal
63. finally to be tall enough to ride the big people rides at the amusement park;
64. Getting a foot of snow was a dream come true;
65. Abilities were discovered because of a double-dog-dare.
66. Spinning around, getting dizzy and falling down was cause for giggles;
67. The worst embarrassment was being picked last for a team;
68. Water balloons were the ultimate weapon;
69. And older siblings were the worst tormentors, but also the fiercest protectors.



70. If you can remember most or all of these, then you have LIVED!!!!
71. Pass this on to anyone who may need a break from their grown up life.
72. I DOUBLE DOG DARE YA  
(author unknown)

This one following has a lot of the same content, with additional things and arranged differently. Read them again...

### Remember When....

1. Close your eyes.....
2. And go back in time....
3. Before the Internet or the MAC, before semiautomatics and crack.
4. Before SEGA or Super Nintendo...
5. Way back.....
6. I'm talking about hide and seek at dusk.
7. The Good Humor man,
8. Red light, green light.
9. The corner store.
10. Hopscotch,
11. butterscotch,
12. double dutch,
13. jacks,
14. kickball,
15. dodge ball.
16. Mother May I?
17. Red Rover and Roly Poly.
18. Hula Hoops.
19. Running through the sprinkler.
20. The smell of the sun and licking salty lips
21. Wax lips and mustaches.
22. An ice cream cone on a warm summer night, chocolate or vanilla or strawberry or maybe butter pecan.
23. A cherry coke from the fountain at the corner drug store.
24. Wait.....
25. Watching Saturday Morning cartoons...short commercials.
26. Fat Albert,
27. Road Runner,
28. He-Man,
29. The Three Stooges,



30. and Bugs,
31. or staying up for Gunsmoke
32. Or back further,
33. listening to Superman on the radio.
34. When around the corner seemed far away, and going downtown seemed like going somewhere.
35. A million mosquito bites.
36. Sticky fingers.
37. Cops and Robbers,
38. Cowboys and Indians,
39. Zorro.
40. Climbing trees,
41. building igloos out of snow banks.
42. Walking to school, no matter what the weather.
43. Running till you were out of breath.
44. Laughing so hard that your stomach hurt.
45. Jumping on the bed.
46. Pillow fights.
47. Spinning around, getting dizzy and falling down was cause for giggles.
48. Being tired from playing....Remember that?
49. The worst embarrassment was being picked last for a team.
50. War was a card game.
51. Water balloons were the ultimate weapon.
52. Baseball cards in the spokes transformed any bike into a motorcycle.
53. I'm not finished just yet...
54. Eating Kool-aid powder!
55. Remember when...there were two types of sneakers for girls and boys (Keds & PF Flyers) and the only time you wore them at school, was for "gym."
56. It wasn't odd to have two or three "best" friends.
57. When nobody owned a purebred dog.
58. When a quarter was a decent allowance, and another quarter a miracle.
59. When milk went up one cent and everyone talked about it for weeks?
60. When you'd reach into a muddy gutter for a penny.
61. When you got your windshield cleaned, oil checked, and gas pumped, without asking, for free, every time. And, you didn't pay for air. And, you got trading stamps to boot!
62. When laundry detergent had free glasses, dishes or towels hidden inside the box.
63. When nearly everyone's mom was at home when the kids got there.
64. When it took five minutes for the TV to warm up, if you even had one.
65. When your Mom wore nylons that came in two pieces.
66. It was magic when dad would "remove" his thumb.
67. When it was considered a great privilege to be taken out to dinner at a real restaurant with your parents.
68. When girls neither dated nor kissed until late high school, if then.
69. When all of your male teachers wore neckties and female teachers had their hair done.



70. When any parent could discipline any kid, or feed him or use him to carry groceries, and nobody, not even the kid, thought a thing of it.
71. When they threatened to keep kids back a grade if they failed...and did!
72. When being sent to the principal's office was nothing compared to the fate that awaited a misbehaving student at home. Basically, we were in fear for our lives but it wasn't because of drive-by shootings, drugs, gangs, etc.
73. Our parents and grandparents were a much bigger threat! And some of us are still afraid of them!!!
74. Didn't that feel good...just to go back and say, Yeah, I remember that!
75. Remember when...
76. Decisions were made by going "eeny-meeny-miney-mo."
77. Mistakes were corrected by simply exclaiming, "do over!"
78. "Race issue" meant arguing about who ran the fastest.
79. Money issues were handled by whoever was the banker in "Monopoly."
80. The worst thing you could catch from the opposite sex was cooties.
81. It was unbelievable that dodge ball wasn't an Olympic event.
82. Having a weapon in school, meant being caught with a slingshot.
83. Nobody was prettier than Mom.
84. Scrapes and bruises were kissed and made better.
85. Taking drugs meant orange-flavored chewable aspirin.
86. Ice cream was considered a basic food group.
87. Getting a foot of snow was a dream come true.
88. Abilities were discovered because of a "double-dog-dare."
89. Older siblings were the worst tormentors, but also the fiercest protectors.
  
90. If you can remember most or all of these, then you have LIVED!!!!
  
91. Pass this on to anyone who may need a break from their "grown up" life...
92. I DOUBLE DOG DARE YA!!!

Yes, lots of these were before even my time (watch it)!

And lots more I remember about the 'good ol days!' The good old days always seem to be in the past, there's a lot of positives in today, but there's also a lot more negatives.

I'll be going into a full narrative after these notes...

1902

1. The Year is 1902-a history lesson of sorts
2. ...What a difference a century makes. Here are the U.S. statistics for 1902.
3. The average life expectancy in the US was forty-seven (47).
4. Only 14 Percent of the homes in the US had a bathtub.
5. Only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone. A three-minute call from Denver to New York City cost eleven dollars.
6. There were only 8,000 cars in the US and only 144 miles of paved roads. [And no 18-wheelers!]
7. The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.
8. Alabama, Mississippi, Iowa, and Tennessee were each more heavily populated than California. With a mere 1.4 million residents, California was only the 21st most populous state in the Union.
9. The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower.
10. The average wage in the US was 22 cents an hour.
11. The average U.S. worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.
12. A competent Accountant could expect to earn \$2000 per year, a Dentist \$2,500 per year, a Veterinarian between \$1,500 and \$4,000 per year, and a Mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year.
13. More than 95 percent of all births in the U.S. took place at home.
14. Ninety percent of all U.S. Physicians had no college education. Instead, they attended medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press and by the government as “substandard.”
15. Sugar cost four cents a pound. Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen. Coffee cost fifteen cents a pound.
16. Most women washed their hair only once a month and used borax or egg yolks for shampoo. [The country folk like to use rainwater collected in a big barrel.]
17. Canada passed a law prohibiting poor people from entering the country for any reason.





18. The five leading causes of death in the US were:
  1. Pneumonia and influenza
  2. Tuberculosis
  3. Diarrhea [Or do they mean dysentery?]
  4. Heart disease
  5. Stroke
  
19. The American flag had 45 stars. Arizona, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Hawaii, and Alaska had not yet been admitted to the Union.
  
20. The population of Las Vegas, Nevada, was 30.
  
21. Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and iced tea hadn't been invented.
  
22. There was no Mother's Day or Father's Day.
  
23. One in ten U.S. adults couldn't read or write. [But there were still jobs that didn't require either.]
  
24. Only 6% of all Americans had graduated from high school.
  
25. Marijuana, heroin, and morphine were all available over the counter at corner drugstores.
  
26. Eighteen percent of households in the U.S. had at least one full-time servant or domestic.
  
27. There were only about 230 reported murders in the entire US. [The operant word is "reported." Who knows how many were not reported.]
  
28. ? ~ What will the next century bring?

We Made It

1. I Can't Believe You Made It!
2. If you lived as a child in the 40's, 50's, 60's or 70's.
3. Looking back, it's hard to believe that we have lived as long as we have...
4. As children, we would ride in cars with no seat belts or air bags.
5. Riding in the back of a pickup truck on a warm day was always a special treat.
6. Our baby cribs were covered with bright colored lead-based paint.
7. We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, doors, or cabinets.
8. When we rode our bikes, we had no helmets.
9. Not to mention hitchhiking to town as a young kid!
10. We drank water from the garden hose and not from a bottle. Horrors.
11. We would spend hours building our go-carts out of scraps and then rode down the hill, only to find out we forgot the brakes. After running into the bushes a few times we learned to solve the problem.
12. We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back when the streetlights came on.
13. No one was able to reach us all day. Our parents knew that all the neighbors would watch out for all the kids.
14. No cell phones. Unthinkable.
15. We played dodge ball and sometimes the ball would really hurt. We got cut and broke bones and broke teeth, and there were no law suits from these accidents.
16. They were accidents. No one was to blame, but us.
17. Remember accidents?
18. We had fights and punched each other and got black and blue and learned to get over it.
19. We ate cupcakes, bread and butter, and drank sugar soda but we were never over weight... we were always outside playing.
20. We shared one grape soda with four friends, from one bottle and no one died from this.
21. We did not have Playstations, Nintendo 64, X-Boxes, video games at all, 99 channels on cable, video tape movies, surround sound, personal cell phones, personal computers, Internet chat rooms ... we had friends. We went outside and found them. We rode bikes or walked to a friend's home and knocked on the door, or rung the bell or just walked in and talked to them.
22. Imagine such a thing. Without asking a parent! By ourselves! Out there in the cold cruel world! Without a guardian.
23. How did we do it?
24. We made up games with sticks and tennis balls and ate worms and although we were told it would happen, we did not put out very many eyes, nor did the worms live inside us forever.
25. Little League had tryouts and not everyone made the team. Those who didn't, had to learn to deal with disappointment..... The teams actually kept score and the winning team was allowed to be excited and the losing team learned to be good sports about it and learned that, in life - sometimes you win and sometimes you lose.
26. Some students weren't as smart as others so they failed a grade and were held back to repeat the same grade..... Horrors.
27. Tests were not adjusted for any reason.
28. Almost no one went to "pre-school" and when we graduated high school we all knew how to read, use proper grammar and do basic math.
29. We all learned how to count out change without a calculator to tell us the amount.
30. The worst problems in school were tardiness and chewing gum in class.
31. Our actions were our own. Consequences were expected.
32. No one to hide behind. The idea of a parent bailing us out if we broke a law was unheard of. They actually sided with the law; imagine that!
33. If you misbehaved, your parents spanked you and no one arrested them for doing that! We also learned that when a parent said "No" - they actually meant that and our lives would not be ruined forever by being denied every little thing we wanted at any given moment.
34. New toys were received on birthdays and holidays.....not on every trip to the store. Parents gave us gifts out of love.... not out of guilt.





35. This generation has produced some of the best risk-takers and problem solvers and inventors, ever.
36. The past 50 years has been an explosion of innovation and new ideas. We had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned how to deal with it all.
37. And you're one of them.
38. Congratulations!

### Notes on an Era

What a time we've lived through!

Changes accelerated through the generations, not just in technology, but in societal changes. Not all for the best.

What do I blame most of the negative changes to?

Believe it or not, I feel our society started falling apart with:

the automobile!

Hmm, why you might ask? Not the autos in themselves, but in what they instituted. Prior to the mobility offered by the auto it was not uncommon for people to be born, grow up, grow old and die within fifty miles of their birth spot.

With the auto they moved farther afield, till the plane and phones made it possible to live across the country and still feel in reach of family occasionally.

I feel it is this distancing that has changed our infrastructure the most.

With family distancing themselves (whether on purpose or not) we lost the porch mentality era. What is the 'porch mentality era?'

It was a time before TV, even before radio, before the phone, before the automobile and mass rapid transits. A time when church and Sunday school (whatever your discipline is) was mandatory. When mothers stayed home to care for the children. When schools dealt with misbehavior directly. A time when no matter if the parents were present or not, it was very hard for children to be unsupervised. Whether grandparents across the street, an aunt down the street, or just another neighbor unrelated, children were mostly under the watchful eyes of adults.

And knew it, even if it wasn't direct interaction.

A time for codes of ethics and behavior, unwritten but understood. Not a time of just laws, broken if you can get away with it.

Conduct was accountable! Not blamed on others or the situation.

Accidents happened and no one was to 'blame!'

People, children made mistakes and learned from them.

We were expected to actually know things when graduating, not just be old enough to leave school.

The individual was the base unit of society, and as the base was accountable to society, not the other way around.

And that is where the 'distancing' did the most damage. As a society we have developed to be more individual rather than incorporated into a larger extended family group.

In the groping for that 'missing' element, we have transferred many of the



individual tasks and duties from the family to government and society in general.

When 'big brother' takes on the role of parents and extended family it tries to meet the needs of society, not of the individual family units.

I remember a time when family took care of family.

I remember when we scrapped together five dollars and it would last us all weekend, in gas and cigarettes.

I remember when gas was 20 cents a gallon and they gave you stuff as incentive to buy it, and you never got out of your car unless you had to use the bathroom at a station.

I remember detention, having to give up your free time for misbehaving in school.

I remember no fear about being out after dark, even in the 'bad' neighborhoods.

I remember leaving the house unlocked so the kids could get in after school.

I remember having six months of World History and six months of US History EVERY year and having to learn it to pass.

I remember math without calculators.

I remember being afraid of being in trouble, which I feel is sadly lacking in today's generations. Primarily since they have nothing to fear, we've taking corporal punishment out of the schools and banned parents from tanning bottoms.

I think the most ludicrous movement was to ban "cruel and unusual" punishment, if it's not cruel and unusual, it's not a punishment. Nor a deterrent.

Then the judicial system has degraded with plea bargaining and prisoners rights. I feel that there are two major components that need to be changed: there should be no temporary insanity or reduced capacity except in sentencing, either you committed the crime or you didn't. And I'm sorry but evidence should be evidence, permissible however it is acquired.

The current push for privacy is also detrimental to our society as a whole, if you have nothing to hide what are you afraid of? Come on in, there might be skeletons in my closets that would shock but not be convectable material. I feel only the guilty have things to hide and want to 'protect' their 'privacy!'

I feel there is evil in this world, and they are winning!

Every 'right' that they gain victimizes the rest of us. Every fear that we've learned takes away from our sense of security. Every change now takes on a more sinister difficult task for us to live with.

Every body remembers a Golden era in their lifetimes, it is always in the past. The youth we disdain today will remember a Golden era when they reach our age, and on ad infinitum.

What we have to learn, as individuals, as families, as society, is that the Golden Era needs to be present and future tense, not a past event.

I have no idea how we will get there on the track we are taking, but it is the only way we will reach utopia.

The only sure thing I believe is that, it started with the individual and it needs to end there as well for us to advance backwards.

To make the best future world possible we have to start within ourselves, each and every one of us, till we shape the world to our inner reality.



We need to bring back accountability, that's of the individual not society or the corporate world.

When individuals are accountable for their own actions, society and business accountability will follow inadvertently.

Returning to the family units instead of individuals will build a better tomorrow.

In the beginning I said the automobile and mobility had the most impact on separating and fragmenting our society. True, but I think you can't point to one thing and say that was the reason, it was a multitude of circumstances and events.

I would trace it back further to (and I'll be in trouble here) the Civil War.

Why?

If you know the true reason the Civil War was fought for (slavery was a side issue) you will understand the devastating effect the North winning had on our society as a whole.

It goes back to what our founding fathers were afraid of, and what they tried to set up as our government.

They believed that a strong federal government was a threat to the new society they were creating. Big Brother commith.

They wanted the federal government for defense of the individual states from external forces. To be weak within the commonwealth itself. That individual states were to be accountable within their own borders. Sounds a lot like what families used to be like, parents and elders as natural barriers to the world and protectors of the family with all individuals being accountable within the family unit.

Basically, the South broke from the Union because they believed in State's rights over Federal. The North wanted a strong Federal government and weak States. Which is what we ended up with.

The Federal government grew and grew, till it's not controlled "by the people, for the people," anymore.

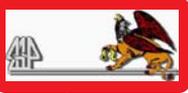
In its growth it became a crutch for many, an enormous entity not even accountable to itself let alone the people it governed.

Hence there is no controls to its abuses, no accountability to the people. And stands today as a template to many of how to behave.

We have a mighty task ahead to turn our society around, revamp the Federal government to be a standard of behavior for our society or to revamp the individuals to set the example for the government.

Either way we can not return to a Golden Age until drastic changes are made. Both on a small level and globally.

It starts with the individual...



## Utopia

After making all those comparisons, what do I feel would make a Utopian World?

(First: Utopia is at least 1000 years off if even then. We have a long ways to go first.)

Utopia will have no laws, no government, no limits, because we will all be accountable to ourselves and each other.

You will need no laws when everyone knows the difference between right and wrong, and lives accordingly.

Nor government for the same reason.

There will be no fear of walking the streets as there will be no danger from others. There will be no hate when we finally learn to truly love our neighbors as ourselves.

It will be a hedonistic society, between consenting humans.

It will be a dream come true, a true golden age.

Where the golden rule is the standard not a rule.

We've come closer in the past, and it will be a world that we can hardly imagine now...

## Dog days.

There have been good years in every generation, I believe each generation will look back on a time that we perceive as better than now.

I think this is perspective as we age, we don't appreciate the good times when we are living them as we think they will never end.