

My mother raised us on her own and died before 55. My siblings passed away before 70. Yet I'm 99 and still going. Why? Even though I lived in nothing but coveralls as a boy, pulled dead bodies off the field in World War II, and lost my wife after nearly 75 years of marriage, I never looked at any part of my life as hard times. A good attitude and sense of humor help you see the bright side. Here's what else I know:

IT'S FUN TO PUT A SMILE ON SOMEONE'S FACE.

Every time I make a call or answer the phone, I sing a song. It makes me feel good and makes everyone I talk to smile. When it's someone's birthday or anniversary, I always send a card. And I pass out lots of stickers.

Anything I can do to make someone's day!

DON'T PUT OFF WHAT YOU WANT TO DO. I recently went up in a hot air balloon for the first time. A month later, I went down inside a submarine. Tomorrow, it could be another situation, so do what you want to do today.

NEVER DWELL ON THE NEGATIVE. I have a bad aorta – my cardiologist said it's only going to last five years. If I thought being sad would help it, I could be very, very sad, but I don't see any value in that. If I'm able to smile and laugh and tell jokes and sing, I'll keep doing that as long as I can.