

Ladies and gentlemen, family and friends,
Thank you all for being here today. As I stand before you, I realize I have more years behind me than ahead, and that's something special. My grandkids often remind me of that, usually when they try to teach me how to set the TV to the right channel! They're my personal tech support team, and I must say, if they'd been around earlier, humanity might have advanced a century or two by now.

But let's talk about something more important than gadgets and gizmos--that's love and kindness. You often hear my laughter before you see me in the room, and it's not because I'm trying to crack everyone up, but because life is too short for anything but laughter and love.

You see, I tried being serious once, but it didn't suit me as well as a good joke or a warm smile. I've always believed you should treat people with kindness, and if you can make them laugh on the way, well, that's just a bonus. And, of course, if you ever need help, there's nothing like a grandfather's advice--usually starts with "Back in my day" and ends with a good laugh.

So, to my grandkids, who laugh at my jokes even when they're old as dirt, thank you for keeping my heart young and my spirits high. To each and every one of you here, thank you for being part of our family and part of my life. Now, let's laugh a little more, love a little deeper, and make memories that even time will be jealous of.

Cheers to laughter, love, and a little bit of mischief in every day!
Thank you.