

# Seniors' Lifestyles

## 'Grand' reality—romance has no age limits

A quick note to seniors in new relationships: Forget the family jokes; they're past being politically incorrect. When family or friends make remarks about "snow on the roof, but fire in the furnace," simply smile knowingly, and earnestly wish them the same quality of life when they become seniors. That ought to shut them up, at least for a while.

Romance, love and all the great things that go along with them know no age limits and are backed up by medical science. No matter how long one has been on earth, the things that make sticking around worthwhile—although they may take less precedence—hardly go away. Now, if you and your girlfriend could just explain that to your kids and grandkids.

Somehow, your family may have gotten the impression that you are a saintly grandmother or an old-fashioned grandpa. As a result, your having a love interest may disappoint them, but it shouldn't. In fact, you should take this as an opportunity to give them a lesson in life, not the other way around.

This is your life, your love and your time to celebrate this remarkable occurrence, this conjunction of two people. So in the interest of making you two (and those concerned kids and grandkids of yours) feel more at ease about everything, here are some of the modern realities about modern love, senior style.

You need to realize that senior couples don't resemble couples in their early 20s... especially in knowledge of how the world works. These are folks

who may have gone through romance and marriage before, and are usually far more savvy.

One of the touchier areas is the reaction of family members when a senior begins dating again following the death of a spouse. Children, especially, may have very different ideas of what a proper waiting period is before a parent begins dating again; too short a time, in their minds, is akin to a betrayal of the deceased.

The key here is communication, early and often. It's best to discuss with children plans for starting a new relationship before one actually begins, and be honest about subjects like the feeling of loneliness. It may be hard to start such a frank discussion, but it will be even harder to deal with unhappy or

worried family down the road.

Senior marriages often come with very different aspects than those of younger couples, the least of which may be a prenuptial agreement. Once thought of as stan-

dard in a Hollywood marriage, a prenuptial agreement has actually become a sign of respect between families in a marriage between seniors. Such an agreement makes clear whose property belongs to whom, and in the case of one's demise, where it goes.

Having issues like these taken care of before the vows are exchanged can go a long way in creating peace between families who may only be meeting each other for the first time. Once thought of as distasteful, the prenuptial agreement makes a great deal of sense for older couples with families.

Senior couples also differ from younger ones in their living arrangements. Most seniors have established homes where their families are comfortable gathering; often there is a significant bond between the place and children even after they're grown. Although the old adage of "two can live as cheaply as one" is still true, it may save some hurt feelings by maintaining separate residences for as long as possible.

In the case of marriage, the spouse whose home will be sold should first offer to sell it to any family members who may want to preserve their memories of the place.

No matter what the age group no one wants to be alone. Companionship, having someone to talk to and do things with, is a basic human need. Just because there's "snow on the roof" doesn't mean that stops.

—By Dan Aspell  
Multi-Ad Services



**Halton Hearing Healthcare Clinic**  
HEARING AID SPECIALIST

- Free Consultations
- Authorized Vendor For: DVA, WCB & ADP
- Provide Sales service to all makes and models of hearing aids

*(Risk Free) Trial Period*

- Evening and Week-end Appointments Available

**Complete Hearing Testing**  
**877-8974**  
83 Mill St., Unit 2  
(Lower Level)  
Georgetown

**QUALITY CARE DENTURE SERVICE**

*Leouise Grech, D.D.*  
Denturist

- **House calls**
- **Free consultations**
- **Saturday appointments available**

**83 Mill St., (lower Level)**  
**Georgetown**  
**(905) 877-8974**

**EDEN HOUSE CARE FACILITY**

**"A NICE PLACE TO LIVE"**  
**NURSING HOME RETIREMENT HOME**  
Eden House is located on beautiful spacious grounds situated between Rockwood and Eden Mills.

Our comfortable country home will continue the tradition of high quality care.

**R.R.#2 GUELPH 519-856-4622**  
Serving Seniors in Your Area Since 1968

**VICTORIAN ORDER OF NURSES HALTON BRANCH**  
Serving Halton Since 1930

**Private in-Home Services**  
(24 hours a day, 7 days a week)

- Visiting Nursing
- Shift Nursing (4 hours)
- Personal Care
- Light Housekeeping
- Meal Preparation
- Continence Care
- Diabetic Care
- Footcare
- IV Therapy
- Night Cyclor Management
- Palliative Care
- Pediatric Care
- Wound Management

VON Halton, an accredited health care organization, offers high quality client focused community health care.

Charitable Reg. No: 11928 4602 RR0001  
A United Way Member Agency

**905-827-8800 or 1-800-387-7127**

Georgetown

**DENTURE CLINIC**  
Alexander Trenton, D.D., F.C.A.D. (A)

**18 Church Street, Georgetown**  
**(905) 877-2359**

**HERITAGE HOUSE**  
Comfortable Retirement Living

- Long & Short Term Accommodations
- 24 Hour Nursing Assistance Available
- All Services and Amenities Provided

Call or stop by for tea and a tour, we'd love to show you around.

Country Setting in Guelph  
**(519) 822-2006**  
2113 Gordon Street, Guelph

**Acton Denture Clinic**  
Tracy Mitchell D.D.

**130 Mill Street East, #103, Acton**

Full & Partial Dentures  
Implants Retained Dentures  
Precision Dentures (BPS® Certified)  
Same Day Service for Repairs & Relines  
Dental Lab On Site  
No Referrals Needed

**(519) 853-0079**