

FACTS ABOUT GRANDPARENTS DAY I BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW

Grandparents Day is a day to honor and cherish our grandparents, here are a few fun facts about the special day.
By Briana Brockbank

As with most holidays, there is also a fascinating history behind Grandparents Day that you may be familiar with or just completely unaware.

Why do we even celebrate it?

That's a no-brainer.

Grandparents are the very foundation on which a family grows. They provide us with so much love and knowledge throughout our lives. They are considered to be the greatest gift to our existence. They deserve far more than just one day for recognition but an argument for another time.

Whether they are biological or not, life can sometimes disconnect grandparents and their grandchildren. Grandparents Day is a time to mend these relationships, strengthen emotional bonds, and give them the respect and honor they deserve.

We can sometimes forget the important people who guide us down a path of success or the sacrifices they made for our family throughout our lives. We need to be sure we take the time and effort to remind them that they are valued and are an important part of our lives. Grandparents are there when we need them the most and love to lend a helping hand whenever they can. We should be there for them when we can and one day out of the year is not asking for much.

Today, over 70 million grandparents in the nation account for one-third of our population. That number is rising every year with the addition of 1.7 million new grandparents. That is a lot of "Back in my time" stories getting shared. That's also a lot of grandparents who may feel lonely or feel like they have become a burden to their families.

Let's explore its' history and travel back in time.

The history for Grandparents Day starts in West Virginia back in 1970. The grassroots campaign took eight years to become a proclamation. The campaign to honor grandparents with a national observance was started back in 1970 by West Virginian grandmother Marian Lucille Herndon McQuade. Marian and her husband Joseph L. McQuade had quite the family with 15 children, 43 grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. The McQuade's were married for 60 years, with Mr. McQuade passing in 2001 and Mrs. McQuade passing in 2008. Marian was 91 when she passed away due to natural causes. Her accomplishments never went unnoticed as the U.S. Postal Service issued a commemorative mailing envelope using her likeness in 1989, celebrating National Grandparents Day's tenth anniversary. Her hometown erected new state highway signs that displayed the town of Oak Hill, West Virginia, as the "Home of Marian McQuade, Founder of National Grandparents Day." Her children and grandchildren continue to work to keep her legacy alive for which she would be very proud of. She knew the value of quality family time and she lived every day as a leader for her family. Her obituary gave the world even more insight into how truly blessed she felt with her life. When she was asked about being credited as the founder of Grandparents Day, she responded with the following. "I am the luckiest person in the world. I have a wonderful and understanding husband, my children are all healthy and well, and my grandchildren and great-grandchildren brighten my days. And then I have my work promoting Grandparents Day, working with seniors and visiting the sick and lonely in hospitals and nursing homes. What more could I want?"

President Jimmy Carter proclaimed the holiday first in 1979. After years of Mrs. McQuade working tirelessly to persuade businesses, local communities, churches, and political leaders, she reached her goal in 1979. President Carter chose the first Sunday after Labor Day as September represented the "autumn" years of life. A call was made to Mrs. McQuade from the White House to share the good news. Carter.

The special day should not be commercialized. If you thought Greeting card companies created Grandparents Day as just another marketing ploy, you were wrong. Unlike many other national holidays celebrated with material gifts, Mrs. McQuade wanted families to connect and celebrate by spending the day together. It was the one day just to appreciate being in the company of family. Grandparents already control nearly 75 percent of the wealth in the U.S., so they are less likely to be impressed with the more significant gifts.

It's the small gestures that leave lasting impressions. Grandparents cherish a hand-written card or framed photo of your favorite time together forever, and they love to show off handmade gifts.

Here are a few ways to create memories instead of opting for gifts.

Bake a family recipe together • Make homemade cards • Interview your grandparents and discover family history • There are so many ways to celebrate the day without breaking the bank.

There are three purposes for Grandparents Day. While the day, in general, is for both young and old, it serves 3 specific purposes, which are:

For families to honor the grandparents. • Educate children on the critical values that grandparents can share. • Give grandparents a dedicated day with their grandchildren. • Grandparents Day does not have an apostrophe like Mother's Day or Father's Day. • Historians think this may have been an oversight when President Carter proclaimed it. Mrs. McQuade believed that to be the best mistake because she didn't think the day belonged to just grandparents but to the whole family instead.

It also has an official song. Oh yeah, crank up the tunes because "A Song for Grandma and Grandpa" by Johnny Prill is the official song.



ORGANIZATIONS & BRANDS FOR PATRIOT DAY

9/11 Memorial & Museum

Dedicated to commemorating the victims of the 2001 and 1993 World Trade Center attacks, the museum preserves the history of 9/11 and educates about its enduring impact. It serves as a place of quiet reflection and remembrance.

Tunnel to Towers Foundation

Founded in honor of Stephen Siller, a firefighter who ran through the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel to the Twin Towers on 9/11, this foundation supports Gold Star and fallen first responder families by providing mortgage-free homes.

Wounded Warrior Project

Established in 2003, the Wounded Warrior Project provides programs and services to post-9/11 injured service members and their families. It focuses on mental health, physical health, career counseling, and community engagement.

Gary Sinise Foundation

Created by actor Gary Sinise, this foundation supports defenders, veterans, first responders, and their families. Programs include building smart homes for severely wounded veterans and providing essential equipment for first responders.

American Red Cross

Founded in 1881 by Clara Barton, the American Red Cross provided critical support in the aftermath of 9/11, including blood drives, mental health services, and shelter for displaced individuals. It continues to be a vital disaster relief organization.

First Responders Children's Foundation

This foundation provides financial support, scholarships, and educational programs to children of first responders who have been injured or killed in the line of duty. It aims to ensure these families receive the care and resources they need.

Tribute in Light

An art installation of 88 searchlights placed next to the site of the World Trade Center, creating two columns of light reaching four miles into the sky. It serves as a powerful visual memorial each year from dusk on September 11 to dawn on September 12.



Year Round Activities						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3:00-5:00 Ladies Only Pickleball/Courts 	7:30-9:30 Social Tennis 12:00-3:00 Mahjong/Card Rm 5:00 Mixed Bridge M&W/Card Rm 6:30 Texas Hold'em/AR	7:30-9:30 Social Tennis 8:00-9:30 Pickleball Lessons/Cts (by Appt Only) 12:45-4:00 Mahjong/Card Rm 2:30-6:30 Ladder Tournament/Cts 6:15 Hand and Foot/Card Rm 6:30 Trivia/AR 7:00 Shuffleboard/Cts	7:30-9:30 Social Tennis 8:30 Ladies Golf 8:30 Nifty Niners/GC 9:00-5:00 Bocce/CT 12:30-4:00 Ladies Bridge/Card Rm For Beginner One Stroke Lessons, please contact Mo Keary @ 239-826-3673	7:30-9:30 Social Tennis 9:00-12:00 Mixed Bridge/Card Rm 8:30 Men's Golf	7:30-9:30 Social Tennis 12:00-4:30 Pinochle/Card Rm	Reception Hours: 9:30am til 3:00pm Monday - Friday Changes made up till the 25th of each month.
★ CRAFT AND LAUNDRY ROOM CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. ★						
September 2026 		1 8:30-4:00 Management/LR 9:30-12:00 Watercolor-Paint for Fun/CR 10:30-11:40 Beg Line Dancing/BR 11:45-1:00 Int Line Dance/BR 12:00-3:00 Quilting/LFCH-MH 1:15-3:30 Veterans Group/AR/BR 3:00-5:00 Corn Hole/BR 4:00-5:00 Gardening/CR 6:00-9:00 Billiards Practice/BDS 6:30 Trivia/BR/AR	2 11:00-12:00 Easy Does It/BR 12:00-2:00 90's Luncheon/LF Lounge 12:00-6:00 Private/P/LR 	3 9:15-9:30 Beginner Tai-Chi/BR 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi/BR 11:00-1:00 Line Dancing/BR 11:00-1:00 Steering Committee/LR 6:00-9:00 Billiards Practice/BDS 6:30 Women's Club Welcome Back Movie /BR/AR/K 6:30-8:30 Pictionary/Card Rm 	4 8:00-9:00 Yoga/BR 7:45 Set-up 11:00-12:00 Easy Does It/BR 	5 September Facts September comes from the Latin word septem "seven," because this was the seventh month of the early Roman calendar. Stone = Sapphire Flower = Aster
6 6:00-8:00 Bible Study/LR 	7 HAPPY LABOR DAY ALL ELS OFFICES CLOSED 9:15-9:30 Beginner Tai-Chi/BR 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi/BR 11:00-12:00 Easy Does It/BR 1:00-3:30 Adv. One Stroke/CR 7:00 Texas Hold'em/AR 6:30 Set-up 	8 9:30-12:00 Watercolor-Paint for Fun/CR 10:30-11:40 Beg Line Dancing/BR 11:45-1:00 Int Line Dance/BR 12:00-3:00 Quilting/LFCH-MH 3:00-5:00 Corn Hole/BR 4:00-5:00 Gardening/CR 5:30 Theatre/LR 6:00-9:00 Billiards Practice/BDS 6:30 Trivia/BR/AR	9 11:00-12:00 Easy Does It/BR 11:00-1:00 Mixed Media Art/CR 10:30 Set-up 	10 9:15-9:30 Beginner Tai-Chi/BR 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi/BR 11:00-1:00 Line Dancing/BR 2:00-4:00 Liaison Meeting/LR 6:00-9:00 Billiards Practice/BDS 6:30-8:30 Pictionary/Card Rm 	11 8:00-9:00 Yoga/BR 7:45 Set-up 11:00-12:00 Easy Does It/BR PATRIOT DAY ★ NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE ★ WE WILL NEVER FORGET	12
13 GRANDPARENTS DAY 6:00-8:00 Bible Study/LR 	14 9:15-9:30 Beginner Tai-Chi/BR 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi/BR 11:00-12:00 Easy Does it/BR 1:00-3:30 Adv. One Stroke/CR 7:00 Texas Hold'em/AR 6:30 Set-up 	15 9:30-12:00 Watercolor-Paint for Fun/CR 10:30-11:40 Beg Line Dancing/BR 11:45-1:00 Int Line Dance/BR 12:00-3:00 Quilting/LFCH-MH 2:00-4:00 PLGA Bd Mtg/LR 3:00-5:00 Corn Hole/BR 4:00-5:00 Gardening/CR 6:00-9:00 Billiards Practice/BDS 6:30 Trivia/BR/AR	16 17 ALL regularly scheduled activities and events ARE CANCELLED for September 16th and 17th . We are sorry for the inconvenience, but this is for the maintenance of the Clubhouse floors. Thank you for your cooperation, Management		18 8:00-9:00 Yoga/ BR 7:45 setup 11:00-12:00 Easy Does it/BR 	19
20 6:00-8:00 Bible Study/LR 	21 9:15-9:30 Beginner Tai-Chi/BR 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi/BR 11:00-12:00 Easy Does it/BR 1:00-3:30 Adv. One Stroke/CR 7:00 Texas Hold'em/AR 6:30 set up 7:00 HOAII Bd Mtg/BR 	22 9:30-12:00 Watercolor-Paint for Fun/CR 10:30-11:40 Beg Line Dancing/BR 11:45-1:00 Int Line Dance/BR 12:00-3:00 Quilting/LFCH-MH 3:00-5:00 Corn Hole/BR 4:00-5:00 Gardening/CR 6:00-9:00 Billiards Practice/BDS 6:30 Trivia/BR/AR	23 NO EASY DOES IT 10:00-12:00 Bocce Fall Sign up/AR/BR Set-up 8am 	24 9:15-9:30 Beginner Tai-Chi/BR 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi/BR 11:00-1:00 Line Dancing/BR 6:00-9:00 Billiards Practice/BDS 6:30-8:30 Pictionary/Card Rm 	25 8:00-9:00 Yoga/ BR 7:45 setup 11:00-12:00 Easy Does it/BR 	26
27 6:00-8:00 Bible Study/LR 	28 9:15-9:30 Beginner Tai-Chi/BR 9:30-10:30 Tai Chi/BR 11:00-12:00 Easy Does it/BR 1:00-3:30 Adv. One Stroke/CR 6:30 Book Club/LR 7:00 Texas Hold'em/AR 6:30 set up 	29 9:30-12:00 Watercolor-Paint for Fun/CR 10:30-11:40 Beg Line Dancing/BR 11:45-1:00 Int Line Dance/BR 12:00-3:00 Quilting/LFCH-MH 3:00-5:00 Corn Hole/BR 4:00-5:00 Gardening/CR 6:00-9:00 Billiards Practice/BDS 6:30 Trivia/BR/AR	30 8:30-4:00 Management/LR 11:00-12:00 Easy Does It/BR 	HAPPY LABOR DAY 	P.L. CLUBHOUSE ROOM ABBREVIATION CODE BR - Ballroom GC - Golf Course BDS - Billiards P - Patio CR - Crafts Room LF - Lake Fairways FS - Fitness Studio LR - Living Room K - Kitchen LL - Library/Loft AR - Activity Room DR - Driving Range Card Room - Card Room F - Foyer M & W - Men & Women	PLEASE NOTE: When making reservations for the use of the clubhouse or any of its rooms more than six months in advance, please submit your request in writing to eliminate misunderstandings. Also, when reserving a room please be sure to clean up after each use. a.m. regular • p.m. bold 