

Second Majority

Birthday – 10/26/2025

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In 2003 at the age of 62, I suffered a massive heart attack. I survived because I had emergency access to the insertion of a stent at the head of the primary coronary artery serving the left ventricle. My grandmother suffered an identical attack at about the same age but in a time before stenting was available. She was sent home and died of heart failure two months later. By contrast and in spite of significant 25% damage to my left ventricle, I recovered beyond even my own naive expectations.

Twenty years later, in 2023, I experienced an event of ventricular tachycardia in which the main ventricle goes into fibrillation and ceases to pump efficiently. I was fortunate in that my fibrillation rate was somewhat less than the rate typically associated with “sudden death.” I dropped to the floor but never lost consciousness. Inger called 911, and EMTs arrived to rapidly assess my condition, ending with their applying shock, which immediately returned my heart rhythm to normal. The overall solution was to implant a pacemaker with defibrillator capability. In the time since, the pacemaker has boosted my pulse rate, and I have had no events requiring the defibrillator.

Today – October 26, 2025, is my 84th birthday, having just finished a four day strenuous perimeter fence rebuild – exhausting, with my back and knees complaining, but I am still erect and ambulatory. So, today is 21+ years post heart attack and it brings me to my Second Majority – in old age survival!

I thank modern medical technology. I thank Inger for sharing both of my majorities with me and giving primary meaning to my sixty four years of adulthood. And I thank my Mother and Father for the many ways they supported my intellectual and economic capabilities as I developed into full adulthood – contributions that extend secondarily to the present.

I have been the beneficiary of 21 additional years that have been highly productive. Apart from the very high value I place on my personal life – marriage, family and friends, I have been privileged to create:

Artistically, 60+ Stainless Steel Cable Sculptures

<http://www.tabsculpture.com>

And

Intellectually, a Comprehensive Worldview/Reality Conception

<http://www.dynamic-humanism.com> .

In Retrospect,

Why am I so fortunate – in spite of some major “hits” that could have left me dead or seriously impaired?? If there is an answer, it is lost in the constant winds of change.

Future Expectations?

My personal Bucket List has been fulfilled! My future is in the hands of unpredictable Entropy. Is “Good Luck” still with me? Or will I pay “Big Time” through my remaining decay before my final Exit? Will I have any “Say” in this departure process? The Unknown – Always Poised, Tantalizingly Before Me.

As a Social Scientist,

I have great concern for the future of modern complex democratic society. We humans are at one and the same time so scientifically and technologically brilliant and so appallingly incompetent socially at nearly every scale. Will we ever be able to hold our competitive and cooperative “instincts” in proper balance familially, municipally, nationally, globally, and ecologically?

In Summation,

After my 84 years in pursuit of understanding the nature and purpose of reality, my overall conclusion IS: Our best theories merely tickle discovery of the solution, if there is one to be had from within what may be our virtually infinite, surrounding reality system. So, Life is surviving while respecting all else, which shares fully in our expanded identity. And Life is continuing to respectfully probe in all ways available to us what seems to be our perpetual condition of Suspense in spite of our temptation to bury this fundamental issue in religious belief or the minutia of everyday activities.