The Decades

Developmentally, a march through the decades brings about various biological, psychological, and cognitive changes. The following photos provide a glimpse into the life of Roger Hiemstra. Born in Southwestern Michigan after a long economic depression and just before the United States entered WWII, Roger was the first born in a working class family. As you view these photos, look for both the changes and constants that time brings about [here is an autobiographical sketch of Roger].

The First Decade

- Six months of age
- Three years old
- Age 5
- Age 7 with brother, Carl
The Second Decade

Age 14
A Football Injury

(top L-R) Carl, Denny, Roger (18); (bottom L-R)
Mom, Joyce, Judy, Dad

Age 17
High School Graduation Photo

Roger (19) (with Mom and Dad)
on the way to
college in California
The Third Decade

Age 23 Serving two years in the Navy Reserves after two years of college and two years of working

Age 26 - Party after graduating with a B.S. in Agricultural Economics from Michigan State University

Age 26 – Starting first professional job as a Cooperative Extension Agent in Mason City, Iowa

Age 29 – Married Janet Wemer in Iowa – The above is an informal reception in Michigan for relatives and friends who could not attend the wedding
The Fourth Decade

Age 32

Age 35 with Janet, Nancy, and Dave

Age 37

Age 38
The Fifth Decade

Age 40, Roger’s first and only attempt at politics (soundly beaten)

Age 42

Age 47

Age 48; (standing L-R) Roger and siblings, Joyce, Judy, Carl, sister/cousin Carol, Denny; (seated) Mom and Dad
The Sixth Decade

Age 54

Age 55 – Roger “performing” this song with his barbershop quartet (go here to hear us sing Happy Birthday).

Age 56

Age 59 (in a museum)
The Seventh Decade

Age 62

Age 65; Nancy’s wedding to Sean Bowditch

Age 67; Dave’s wedding to Rachel Timbie

Age 69; Roger and Janet’s 40th wedding anniversary celebration
The Eighth Decade

Age 72

Age 73; Christmas, 2011 – Fayetteville, NY
Son-in-law Sean Bowditch, daughter Nancy Hiemstra, daughter-in-law Rachel Hiemstra, Son Dave Hiemstra, Kian Bowditch, Rog, Riley Hiemstra, and Janet

Age 75; Christmas 2013 – Fayetteville – Sean, Nancy (holding our newest, Saskia), Rachel, Dave, Kian, Rog, Janet, and Riley

Age 76; Louisville, CO – Rog and Janet hold our newest and last, Isabel
A Life in Review

Questions to Ponder

1. What are the similarities and differences in appearance over the decades?
2. How does hair and hair color change with age?
3. Body weight and mass (BMI) often varies with age. Do you have any observations after viewing the various photos?
4. Skin tone, wear and tear from the sun, and wrinkles vary among people through the developmental stages. Compare what is happening to yourself with what you can discern in these photos.
5. Family relationships do matter. What thoughts pop into your mind about family in viewing the above photos?
6. In viewing a set of photos like those revealed here, what thoughts form in your mind regarding your own development?
50th Anniversary Dinner, June 23, 2018