

It's Not Fair!

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How many times have you heard or said this? Some of us probably more than others, but all of us have heard or said it. Why not? It's true...life is not fair.

If life were fair, we would all be rich. Innocent children would not die. We would all be exceptional athletes like Tim Tebow or super smart and win Nobel prizes. The good would not die young and there would be no wars or famine or natural disasters in the world. But, life is not fair.

In fact, life is often hard! We know that. Some of us learned it during the depression. Others learned it in war. Most of us have felt the pains of life in the death of loved ones...children, parents, grandparents, or spouses. Some came to Moosehaven living literally out of their cars. Many were forced to choose on a daily basis between medicine and meals. Life is truly often hard.

Life is also full of promise! The promise is evident in the beautiful sunrises we see over the river. It can also be seen in the rainbow that arcs across the campus after a rain. It is evident in the smile of a child and in the many blessings offered at Moosehaven...food, shelter, clothing, medical care, activities, friends and community.

I had the pleasure of meeting and hearing John Glenn speak several months ago. Mr. Glenn served this nation and mankind in many ways...

as a Marine fighter pilot, an astronaut with two trips into space, and as a senator. He volunteered for his second trip into space at an age well after astronauts retire. He did so, not because he was seeking glory, but because it allowed scientists and doctors to study the effects of aging in an environment that magnified those effects.

His speech was interesting and full of descriptions of his experiences in space and the senate. He answered some questions afterwards. One was how he managed to remain so youthful for a man 87 years old. He responded that the reason was simple...exercise and attitude.

For exercise, Mr. Glenn and his wife walk 2 miles every day whenever their schedule permits. He further noted that people who are solely focused on their own dislikes, hurts, misfortunes, etc., live in a very small world surrounded by their own unhappiness and dissatisfaction. While those that actively look for the positive and share their strengths, talents and experiences to better their lives and those of others enjoy the many pleasures of a positive life including good health and greater happiness. All of us have the same opportunity to seek the positive but only some take advantage of it. If you persistently look for the negative you will find it, and life will seem unfair. But, if you seek the positive, you will discover life's many beautiful and joyful promises.

You only have to look!