

Features

Valentine's Day Marriage Begins A Happy Life

By SUSAN HARRIS
For 45 years, Dick and Ruby Long have celebrated the beginning of their life together on the day of hearts and flowers, Valentine's Day. On February 14, 1941, they became Mr. and Mrs. E.W.

Long at the Baptist parsonage in Tyner.
"We've had a happy life, Mrs. Long said as she reminisced about the years she and her husband have shared.
The Longs say they have never

failed to celebrate an anniversary in some way, however small, even though Mrs. Long has been hospitalized on one or two of the occasions.
They usually go out to dinner with three other couples whose

anniversaries are close to the Longs: George and Elizabeth Baker, Esther and Lorenzo Elliott and Dina and Dorothy Matthews.
When asked to what they attribute their marital success,

Mrs. Long said, "Well, you have to give and take a lot. He's been very congenial. We have a lot in common."
Mr. Long answers with his slow, quiet laugh, "It hasn't been bad at all." He adds to that, "I couldn't have made it without her."

There was no special reason for choosing Valentine's Day for their wedding day, Mrs. Long said. "It just seemed like a good day to get married. It gave us time to make plans after Christmas." Mrs. Long recalls that she wore a beige suit with navy blue accessories.

Mr. Long remembers being a nervous groom. He says his knees were knocking so bad that his pants cuffs looked like a tornado was blowing through.

After getting through the ceremony he reports, "There wasn't any problem staying married."

The marriage was blessed with a daughter, Judy, who now lives in Durham.

A neat, white house in Woodland Circle has been home for the Longs for 25 of their 45 years of wedlock.

For about 18 years Mr. Long was the owner-operator of Dick's

Drive-In. He and Mrs. Long worked together running the business. Although they enjoyed the business, Mrs. Long says one of the highlights of their marriage has been retirement. "I highly recommend that (retirement)," she laughed.

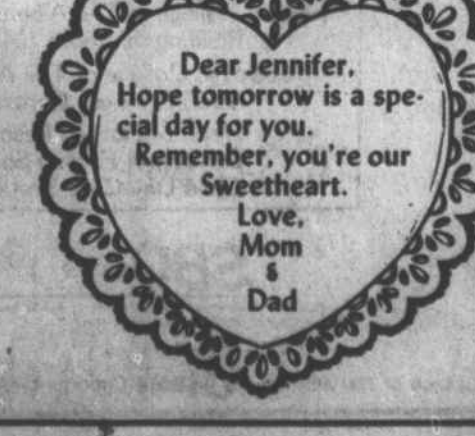
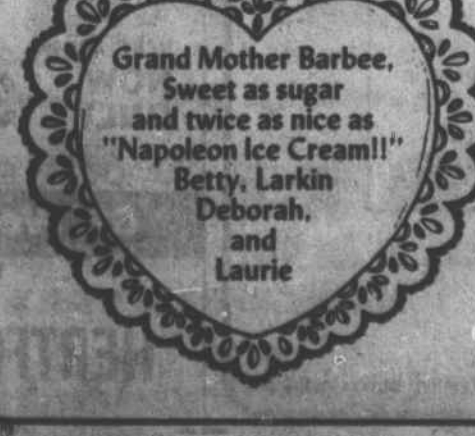
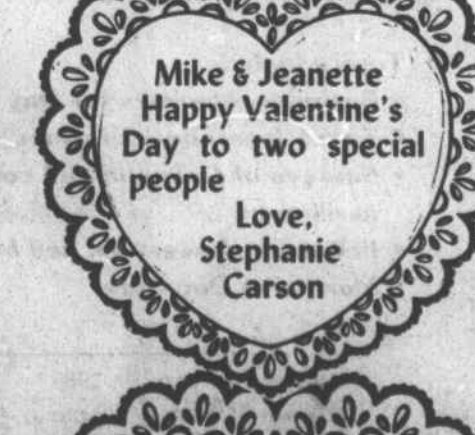
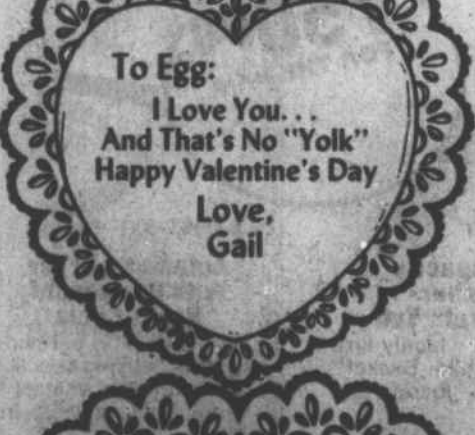
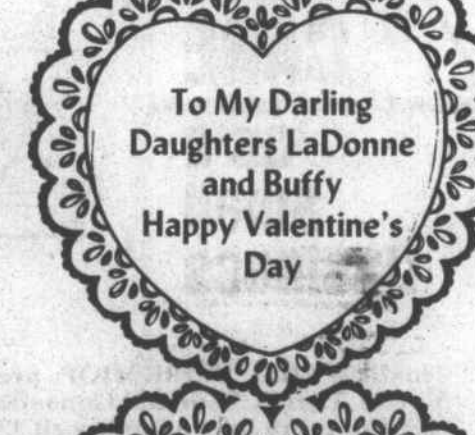
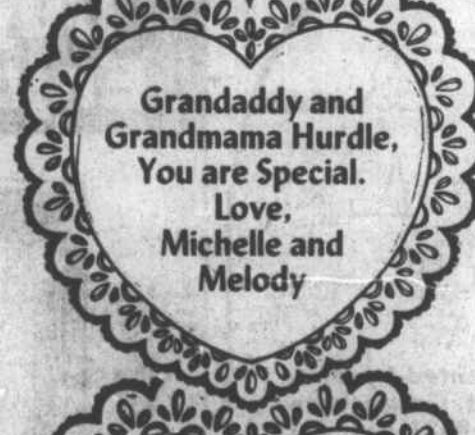
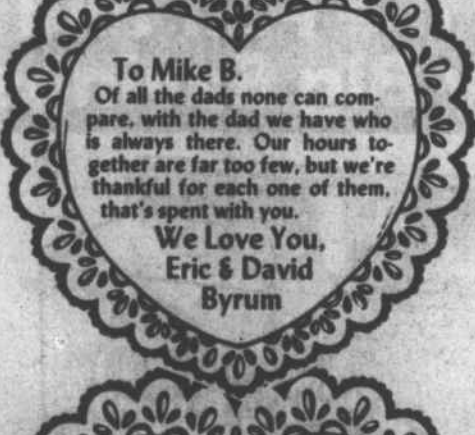
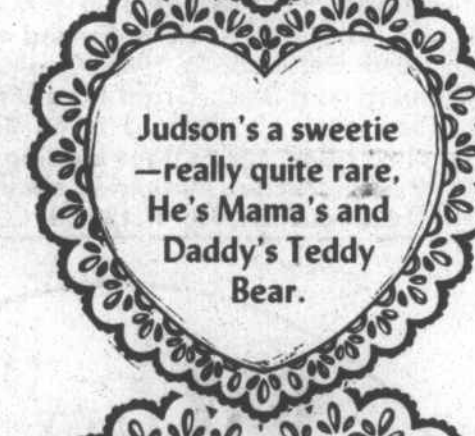
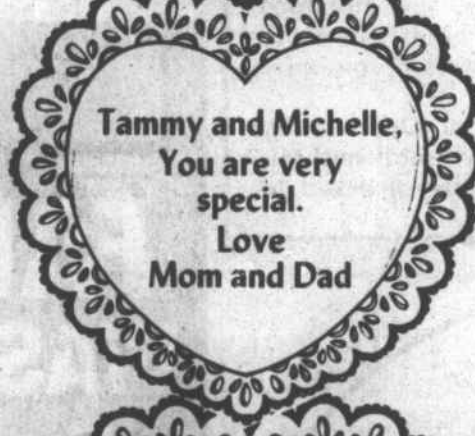
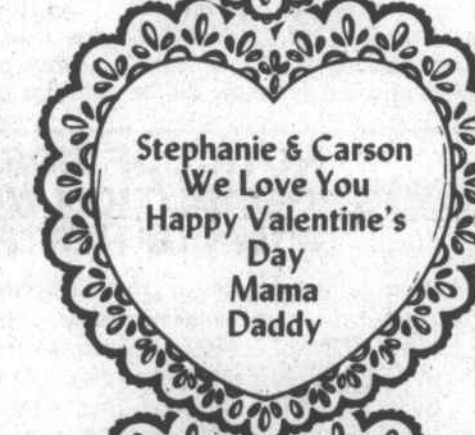
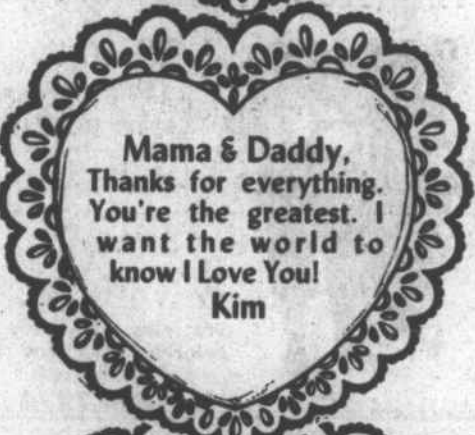
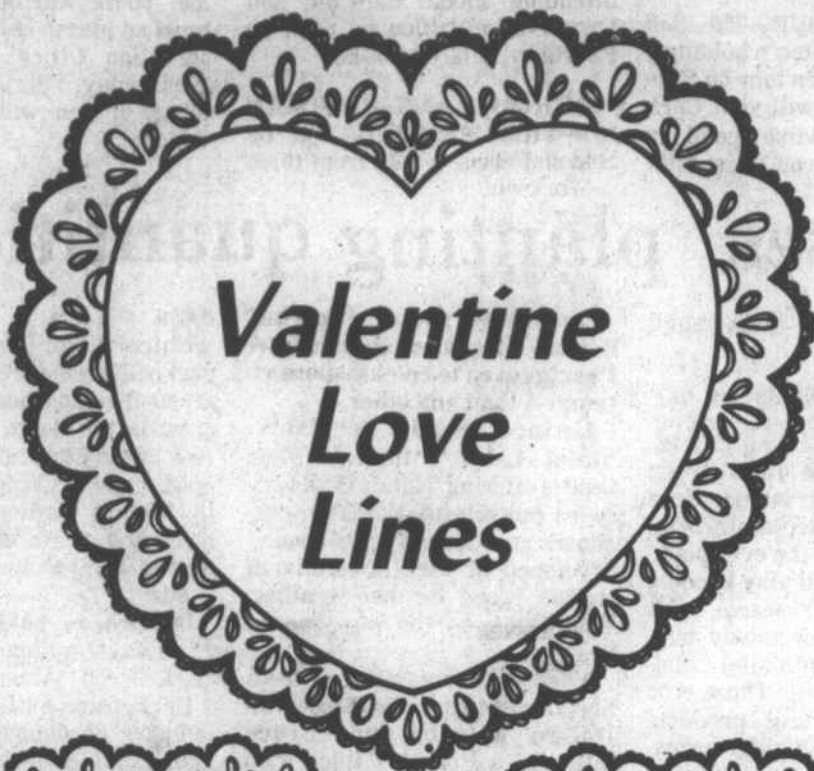
Poor health has taken its toll on the gracefully aging couple. Both have heart conditions and diabetes. He underwent a tracheotomy and wore a tube in his throat for 14-months. She is legally blind.

"We have to depend on each other," Mrs. Long commented. For example, they help each other with the two shots of insulin they both must take daily.

The only advice Mr. Long would offer a young man considering marriage is, "Be good to her and stay home with her."

Mrs. Long might tell a couple, "Be real sure you're compatible. Be able to share and to give and take. Be congenial. And, of course, the first thing is you've got to love each other." After a moment of thought she added, "Co-operation is the key word."

Happy Anniversary, Mr. and Mrs. Long. May you enjoy many more happy years together.



RUBY AND DICK LONG

Nutrition Site menus

The following is a list of menus for the Nutrition Site program for the elderly for the week of Feb. 10-14.

Monday—hamburger on bun, baked beans, coleslaw, oleo, red fruited jello with fruit, milk.

Tuesday—3 oz. ham slice in fruit sauce, steamed cabbage, candied yams, cornbread, oleo, sugar cookies, ½ cup orange juice, milk.

Wednesday—baked fish, stewed potatoes, cabbage slaw,

hushpuppies, oleo, lemon pudding, milk.

Thursday—bbq chicken, baby lima beans, buttered carrots, roll, oleo, gingerbread, ½ cup orange juice, milk.

Friday—meatballs with gravy, green beans, AuGratin potatoes, roll, oleo, fresh orange, milk.

For more information, contact Mrs. M.B. Taylor, 426-8552. The nutrition site is located on U.S. Hwy. 17 Bypass, Hertford Housing Authority.

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