

Presented by JP at the 50th Wedding Anniversary celebration
100 things my parents taught me Sept 1, 2017, ~~the~~ Whale Pod Chalet,
Pender Island.

1. Always wave to people in your neighborhood
They will wave back... It may take years but eventually they will wave back.
2. How to sew
3. How to cook a turkey
4. In University, you should spend 2hrs studying outside of class for every hour in class.
I was way over... If you include basketball.
5. If you borrow something, give it back in the same shape or better shape than when you borrowed it.
6. If you don't know how something works, take it apart
7. If something is advertised on TV we don't buy it.
I remember seeing Sunlight detergent in our house and being excited because I had seen it advertised on TV
8. If something is on sale, buy the whole crate. Especially if it's frozen concentrate orange juice.
9. How to do laundry. I still make sure to separate the light and dark clothes.
10. If you want a bike save your money or go find one in the garbage and fix it up.
11. How to fix up a bike
12. Colour TVs are overrated.
13. Black and white TVs are best stored in a closet, separated from the power chord.
14. If you have a problem, like a TV without a chord, take your time, go through all the options and you will find a solution. Which I did... I almost electrocuted myself but I managed to watch TV all night.
15. If you solve a problem, even one you were not allowed to solve, your parents will be proud of you.
16. How to canoe
17. That you need to go down to go up.
18. Always wear a condom, the pill doesn't protect you from STDs. I was around 11 or 12 the first time we had the "chat".
19. Always look positive, even when you feel like crap. Never really managed to master that one.
20. Always write "thank you" letters.
21. They taught me the game "I'm ready, you're not ready" I seem to remember my mom losing quite often.
22. Composting is good
23. The different spellings of which and witch.

24. We've all heard the cliché, "never take no for an answer" But I learnt that if someone needs your help you never give no as an answer.
25. The job isn't done until the tools are put away.
26. How to do dishes
27. How to wipe counters.
28. That if you cook you don't clean.
29. How to cook.
30. If you're the host, always leave the best for your guests.
31. If you're the guest, always leave the best for your host.
32. You cut I choose, I cut you choose.
33. Don't leave your piece of pie around unmarked and expect to eat it later. It won't be there.
34. Clockwise to tighten, counter clockwise to loosen.
35. How a clock works.
36. Green is not in my palate, I'm a winter. Mom I really did love that green suede jacket, it was from Le Chateaux
37. Always have a sweat towel during basketball games.
38. The process is just as if not more important than the outcome.
Have you ever seen my parents house? Over 40 years and still in the process of being done.
39. Don't play basketball in Birkenstocks.
40. Home made may take more time, but it's cheaper and so much more rewarding in the end.
41. Napping is good! Anytime, anywhere. During a TV show, at the symphony, even during a conversation. (look at mom) you still with us Fran?
42. If you want something then ask.
43. If you're looking for something, you need to move things and look under them.
44. You can play pretty much any song on a guitar with the chords A, E and D.
45. How to play "Blowing in the Wind" in A, E and D.
46. A book without an index is stupid.
47. You always need to check your sources as well as the sample size of the study.
48. How to reference sources. I may have been in grade 3 when I first learnt this?
49. Sometimes teachers are jerks, but you should still show them respect. This includes lunch monitors Daegan.
50. Just because the teachers are on strike doesn't mean you don't have to do school work.
51. Being friendly... flirting, gets you better service.

52. Fran's money is her money and Bill's money is their money.
53. It's a good thing to buy land and leave it alone.
54. A 3-year-old car is the optimal age to buy it.
My dad has the spread sheets. If you want more details, I'm sure he would be happy to email them to you.
55. Always back up the backup of all your computer files.
56. When cooking rice, always put the rice in with the water before it's boiling. Pops, rice is not pasta.
57. Yelling at each other never means you don't love each other.
58. Questioning things is important.
59. Discussing things with anyone and everyone is a good way to hash out a problem.
60. You never know who may have a great solution to your problems.
61. If you feel strongly about something, write a letter.
62. Trust is fragile and can easily be broken.
63. Broken trust takes a long time to mend.
64. Don't steal. I'm sure you can all fill in the blanks
65. The best way to clean your room is to sweep everything into the middle of the room and work your way through the pile.
66. Practice is good in and of itself. It also helps you to get better.
67. Making a gift is far better than buying a gift.
68. If you don't know how to do something, ask for help, or read a book.
69. If you break something, fess up and try to fix it.
70. Guns are bad.
71. War is horrible.
72. A family, community or society works much better when it's members care for each other.
73. There is more than one way to do something.
74. Bill's way to do something is usually the most efficient way.
75. It's good to spend time alone
76. It's good to exercise.
77. It's better to use brains over brawn.
78. If you can't move something get a bigger lever.
79. If something isn't working, hit it with a bigger hammer.
80. Volkswagens break down a lot.
81. If it ain't broke, there still might be a way to improve it.
82. Function is often more important than form.
83. Learning is cool.

84. If you're cold, put on a sweater.

Daegan only learnt this when she started paying the heating bill.

85. Talking to yourself, or the dog, or a baby can be helpful.

86. A person can have porridge every single day for over 70 years and still enjoy it.

87. Always keep your pencil sharp.

88. You can put any experience on your resume.

Doing dishes, cooking, using WordPerfect... They all demonstrate you are capable.

89. Defence is more important than offence.

90. If somebody is bullying you, try to make friends.

91. If you try to make friends with a bully and it doesn't work, then try to ignore them.

92. If you try to ignore a bully but he doesn't leave you alone and you punch him in the nose your pacifist dad might not get mad at you.

93. Even parents have things to learn.

94. Parents sometimes learn from their children.

95. The first draft is just the first step.

BTW I'll have you know this is like the 3rd or 4th draft of this list.

96. Always give yourself time to edit a paper.

97. If you don't have time to edit your paper don't show it to your parents.

98. How to time an engine

99. Never throw anything away, one day it might be exactly what you're looking for.

100. When choosing someone to spend the rest of your life with, choose someone you think you can get through the shit with.

You two definitely chose right. 50 years of working through shit together has given all of us some wonderful memories. Thank you and I love you dearly.