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I sometimes wonder how I have survived so long after making some decisions in earlier times that were questionable to say the least. They say God watches over fools and babies. That could explain a lot. Maybe He had planning my future with my great grandkids in mind.

No one could be better prepared for being a teacher of life skills after the education I received here in Bandera during my young years. I would hope that the younger generations will learn from my mistakes as we never live long enough to make all the mistakes ourselves. Bullets were dodged thanks to some words of wisdom from my elders. I can't say I always listened but I did survive so some things did get through my thick skull.

The cycle of my life is indeed fascinating as I look back over the seven decades I have spent here in our little corner of the world. Like everyone else I started out crawling around in diapers before I moved up to walking. Later I started relying on my bicycle for getting around and eventually I graduated to the driving a car stage. When my grandson came along and reached his bicycle age I reverted back to it so I could ride along with him. We could be seen riding around the area for hours some days.

Here in more recent years I have returned to walking quite a bit and I am thoroughly enjoying it. I am a little worried that I might one day wake up and find myself once again in diapers. I can only hope the reverse life cycle stops at my walking phase and lasts a good long time. But I have been using baby powder a little more frequently over this past year. Could it be? Hmmm?

Through social media and some chance encounters with friends from the distant past I have begun to take note of what a long journey my Growing Up In Bandera has been. My aching joints remind me every day as I roll out of bed that some of the roads I have traveled weren't paved. The words, "Don't do that!!! You'll hurt your back," echo in my mind daily. I should have listened to those with knowledge gained through experience.

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