

The Dash

Contributed by Gayle Nobel
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I accidentally stumbled on the book "The Dash" Making a Difference with Your Life. Though I'm sure I have received this poem in a forward somewhere along the line, I was moved by it's powerful message.

"The Dash" by Linda Ellis is such a beautiful reminder of the power of "how we live and love". Once again, it comes back to attitude and slowing down.

"I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend. He referred to the dates on her tombstone from the beginning...to the end.

He noted that first came the date of her birth and spoke of the following date with tears, but he said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time that she spent alive on earth and now only those who loved her know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own, the cars..the house...the cash. What matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard: are there things you'd like to change? For you never know how much time is left that can still be rearranged.

If we could just slow down enough to consider what's true and real and always try to understand the way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger and show appreciation more and love the people in our lives like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile...remembering that this special dash might only last a little while.

So when your eulogy is being read with your life's actions to rehash, would you be proud of the things they say about how you spent your dash?"

Thank you, Linda Ellis

How are YOU deciding to spend your dash today?