

## ***One-Liners . . . That Changed My Life!***

### **# 96 “*Forty days in the wilderness!*”**

On June 21, 2012, my new wife and I left for Colorado. We were headed for a mountain home built by her and her former husband.

I couldn't shake the feeling I was going with *his* wife, in *his* 4 wheel vehicle, to *his* cabin, in *his* town, to be with *his* friends. I found *his* presence everywhere—*his* pictures, *his* carvings, *his* fishing gear, *his* hats, and *his* tools. I missed *my* people, *my* possessions and *my* position. I was nobody with nothing!

My wife sensed how miserable I was and offered to go home, but I told her I felt it was important that we stay through the summer. It finally became clear it was a time for me to voluntarily let go of everything, so God could start me with a fresh new slate. A tiny version of Moses' and Jesus', “*Forty days in the wilderness!*”

40 days after we left Wichita we both awoke to the realization God was stripping me of everything but Himself. He was teaching me *humility!* Over the next few days I recounted with joy and wonder the nearly endless good things that God substituted: mountains and drives; streams and walks; cool and rain; bucks, does and fawns in our yard; small town life and a mountain city charm with wooden boardwalks, shops and churches; Bible Studies; my 87<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration and a local artist to paint our WWII plane. The greatest joy of all, were the people, who were now my friends, too!

It was good to know Jo's past, but we never went back. We knew we couldn't recreate her old life. God had given us something new and it was time, *now*, to build *our* marriage and our *memories!*

*From Grandpa With Love*

#### **A Note From the Writer**

Moving into my nineties caused me to reminisce. It was eye-opening to realize how much I had been changed by one-liners. I decided some of these might give others a new insight or a chuckle, so—enjoy! You can reproduce this material, provided the copies are complete, including this copyright note, and circulated free of charge. © 2018 Marvin J. Martin