

On Behalf of “old people”

Yesterday, at the age of 83 I took a mile long walk in my pasture. If you know anything about the terrain of pastures you know they are made for tractors and animals not for leisurely walks for any human. My trek through the pasture could not have been made by either Biden nor Trump. Does this mean I am more equipped to be president than either of them? Hardly. Going a step further, I bet most of the people bellyaching about the fitness of Biden could not have kept up with me.

Americans are glued to shows like Antique Roadshow, Auction Hunters, American Pickers, Pawn Stars and all the rest. Collecting old furniture, license plates, baseball cards, marbles, paintings and most everything else on God's green earth is highly revered.

But when we switch gears and talk about “antique” people we value them less. If President Biden was seen walking through a pasture at my clip, most questions concerning his age would disappear.

Biden may not be able to bounce up and down steps like Obama did, but his wisdom, his experience, his intellect, his compassion is still intact. A recent winner on Jeopardy sat in a chair, my teacher at 91 still reads and writes on a daily basis and at 83 I still take hikes through my pasture.

Social Security labels the elderly as anyone being 65 or over. Before we push anymore “elderly” off to pasture in some nursing home, may we all take the time, the courage to see past our aging marks, our drooping skin our lapse in memory and see the real us. I too forget at times, but I have a lot more to recall than a

forty-year-old. "WHY SONNY I HAVE FORGOTTEN MORE THAN WHAT YOU PRESENTLY KNOW."

Real strength comes not from youth and the ability to walk briskly, but through wisdom and truly caring for one's neighbor and protecting the poor and the disenfranchised. Now that is the kind of leader I will follow and vote for.

Dennis Siebert