There are many diamond anniversaries

Michael Vaughan
Commentary

On the occasion of the 60th wedding anniversary, it is fitting to honor the fact that one of the couples celebrating their 60th anniversary is Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip. While my parents are not royalty, our family's marriage typifies many of the best traits of nobility. You won't find many couples who started their marriage with a post-war wedding.

I am a product of a couple, so I know how important it is to build a lifelong home and to celebrate milestones with those who mean the most to us. I write to you today about the many diamond anniversaries that we celebrate in the year 2007.

In the years following World War II, marriages flourished. Weddings and courtships that had been postponed during the war, and the post-war rush of young couples meant that the war years made up for lost time. In 1946, the first full year following the war, the marriage rate skyrocketed. Post-War II weddings continued during the 1940s and much of the 1950s. Utah was part of this trend. In Utah, the number of marriages performed in 1946 was 40 percent greater than the average during the war years. In 1948, the year, post-war weddings spawned a lot of children. These children are the baby boom generation. Because of the millions of marriages performed after World War II, many baby boomers will celebrate their 60th anniversary this year. It is not a moment of celebration for the many couples who have not been able to celebrate this anniversary. It is a moment of pain for the many families who have lost loved ones in the current war in Iraq. That's nearly 4,700 American military members who have been killed in Iraq.

The baseline budget necessary to fund our defense is more than $490 billion in federal spending on the Iraq war alone. It is a significant amount of money. In addition to the untold costs, the war will cost the U.S. economy an additional $157 billion to the war debt in 2008 alone. That's nearly $10 times the $50 billion the Bush administration originally estimated the war would cost. Yet the president has asked Congress to appropriate an additional $157 billion for the war just for next year.

The president has asked Congress to appropriate an additional $157 billion for the war just for next year. There is a good chance that you know someone who recently married in the military. They are going to say that they are proud of the military and are glad to fight for their country. They are not aware of the costs of war. They are not aware of the costs of our defense. They are not aware of the costs of the war debt.

Unfortunately, I do not have more room to write about the costs of war. I hope you will read more about the costs of war in a future essay. Today, I want to write about the costs of war for my family and friends. For my parents, Bruce and Mildred, have been at war (too long), or are probably telling you how long it has been since they have been married.

There are many diamond anniversaries. On May 24, my parents will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary. I have been admiring for several months a ring my mother purchased a ring my mother wanted to wear on their special day. My dad took my mother's hand and walked her down the aisle.

What is the key to a long-lasting marriage? Perhaps the best way to gain some insight into the elements that make up a loving and lasting relationship is by relating a short story about my own parents. A couple of years after the war, my parents, Bruce and Mildred, were married. They had a small ceremony with only the priest and two witnesses in attendance. My mother reported that the fact they were going to be married was a surprise to family and friends. For my 40th anniversary, my father decided to remodel the situation, without the knowledge of my mother.

Her preparation was done, my dad told my mother that he didn't want to do anything special for the anniversary, after all, their anniversary was a few months ago. He suggested they save the special festivities for that occasion. On the morning of their anniversary my father announced that the parents planned to do a few things together. He needed some help with the church and walked the church in order to preserve the surprise. Two grandchildren were standing by the church organist immediately started to play the wedding march. My dad took my mother's hand and walked her down the aisle.

Can you use this story to gain some insight into the key to a long and happy marriage? I believe you can. Romance is an obvious and important element in the story. The journalist Mignon McLaughlin wrote: "A successful marriage requires failure in love many times, always with the same person." Long-term marriages are usually able to keep romance alive, even if the nature of the relationship changes over the years.

The story also illustrates the importance of ingenuity, the things your partner wants, even if those wants are not expressed. An important story is that it is worthwhile to make a special effort to attend to those things that will make your partner happy. The story also contains a small element of forgiveness. If my dad had given my mother a hint that he was going to marry her, she would have been on our side. The story also contains a small element of forgiveness. If my dad had given my mother a hint that he was going to marry her, she would have been on our side.

What do you think? Is there a story that illustrates your marriage? The story also illustrates the importance of ingenuity, the things your partner wants, even if those wants are not expressed. An important story is that it is worthwhile to make a special effort to attend to those things that will make your partner happy. The story also contains a small element of forgiveness. If my dad had given my mother a hint that he was going to marry her, she would have been on our side. The story also contains a small element of forgiveness. If my dad had given my mother a hint that he was going to marry her, she would have been on our side.

The New York Times, of course, is the newspaper in which The Wall Street Journal appears. We are the only Utah provider to make the list. For the eighth time in nine years, Intermountain has been named by Hospital and HealthNet Insights as one of the top tech-savvy hospital systems in the U.S. We are the only Utah provider to make the list. For the eighth time in nine years, Intermountain has been named by Hospital and HealthNet Insights as one of the top tech-savvy hospital systems in the U.S. We are the only Utah provider to make the list.

DOONESBURY

The Los Angeles Times published a story focused on Intermountain's 39-week induction process. It is reprinted here in its entirety as the need for C-sections, fewer newborns in intensive care and fewer medical interventions problems in occurring.

"If everyone got care at Intermountain Healthcare in Salt Lake City, our health-care costs would be lowered by one-third." — The Wall Street Journal

Intermountain Healthcare’s program has resulted in plugging C-section rates, fewer preemies in intensive care and fewer medical interventions in delivering.

What it comes down to is a healing.

The awards and recognitions are significant because of what they mean for our patients: higher-quality medical care, allowing for a better chance at healing.

Better cost-effectiveness, according to The Wall Street Journal.

One story in The Wall Street Journal named Intermountain Healthcare, along with the Mayo Clinic, as two of the best hospitals in the country. This was the result of a 10-month study of hundreds of hospitals and doctors across the U.S. The study found that Intermountain Healthcare was ranked by The New York Times as one of the top 10 hospitals in the U.S. in reducing infections and drug errors, and in helping newborns better avoid needing intensive care.

Using computer technology to aid in patient care.

A productive debate over the long-term economic impact of the war and its cost to future generations in Korea.

It's surprise, however, that this is a debate the Bush administration would rather have.

DOONESBURY

STATE OF THE UNION

The New York Times says Intermountain is experienced in cutting medical costs. Intermountain Healthcare was highlighted by the New York Times as a leader in cutting healthcare costs and doing things "right the first time" in reducing infections and drug errors, and in helping newborns better avoid needing intensive care.

DOONESBURY

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By Carl Moore

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