



## 1,000 Unforgettable Senior Moments: Of Which We Could Remember Only 246

By Tom Friedman

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### 1,000 Unforgettable Senior Moments: Of Which We Could Remember Only 246 By Tom Friedman

No, you're not losing your mind. And you're definitely not alone. There's Jimmy Carter, forgetting the nuclear launch codes in a suit at the dry cleaners. Rod Stewart fumbling for the name of the intense first love who inspired "Maggie Mae." G. K. Chesterton writing a long letter to his mother announcing the good news about his engagement? while his mother is in the room with him. Marilyn Monroe blowing the same line through 52 takes during the filming of *Some Like It Hot*.

Celebrating history's greatest mental lapses, is a perfect impulse book in the fine gift format of *Famous Last Words*. Not just outlandishly funny, it's also a book of great comfort?after all, having a senior moment puts you in the company of Einstein, Lincoln, Beethoven, Newton, Toscanini, and a whole assortment of presidents, poets, philosophers, popes, and Nobel Prize-winners. Talk about gaffes. Here are best men forgetting to show up at the wedding. Judges staggered by the incompetence of their previous decisions. Senators frozen in front of TV cameras. Olympic officials gazing absently while bewildered runners continue through the finish line. Bono losing the only copy of his lyrics to a new album. Forget to pick up your copy today!

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### Editorial Review

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The President who left the nuclear launch codes in a suit at the dry cleaners, page 51

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And of course, the novelist who put the orange juice outside and the kitten in the refrigerator, page 152

#### About the Author

Tom Friedman is a writer, editor, and George Foster Peabody Award–winning documentary producer. He lives in Northern California.

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#### ALTHOUGH NOT AS GREAT AS IT COULD HAVE BEEN

When Richard Nixon arrived in Paris for the funeral of French President Georges Pompidou in April 1974, his mind must have been elsewhere. At the airport he declared, “This is a great day for France!”

#### AND PLEASE GIVE MY REGARDS TO HIS LOVELY WIFE

Sir Thomas Beecham (1879–1961), the founder of the London Philharmonic Orchestra, once ran into a distinguished-looking woman in the lobby of a hotel. Although he could not remember her name, he thought he knew her. When he engaged her in conversation, he vaguely recollected that she had a brother. Hoping for any clue to her identity, he asked her how her brother was and whether he was still working at the same job. “Oh, he’s very well,” said Princess Mary about George VI, “and still king.”

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**Salina Juarez:**

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