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Note From a Thoughtful Husband

It is important for men to remember that, as women grow older, it becomes harder for them to maintain the same quality of housekeeping

as

when they were younger. When you notice this, try not to yell at

them.

Some are oversensitive, and there's nothing worse than an

oversensitive

woman. My name is Ron. Let me relate how I handled the situation with my wife, Julie. When I took "early retirement" last year, it became necessary for Julie to get a full-time job, both for the extra income

and

for the health benefits that we needed.

Shortly after she started working, I noticed she was beginning to show her age. I usually get home from the golf course about the same time she gets home from work. Although she knows how hungry I am, she almost always says she has to rest for half an hour or so before she starts dinner. I don't yell at her. Instead, I tell her to take her

time

and just wake me when she gets dinner on the table. I generally have lunch in the Men's Grill at the club so eating out is not reasonable. I'm ready for some home cooked grub when I hit that door.

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She used to do the dishes as soon as we finished eating. But now it's not unusual for them to sit on the table for several hours after dinner. I do what I can by diplomatically reminding her several times each evening that they won't clean themselves. I know she really appreciates this, as it does seem to motivate her to get them done

before

she
goes to bed.

Another symptom of aging is complaining, I think. For example, she will say that it is difficult for her to find time to pay the monthly bills during her lunch hour. But, boys, we take 'em for

better or

worse, so I just smile and offer encouragement. I tell her to stretch

it

out over two or even three days. That way she won't have to rush so much. I also remind her that missing lunch completely now and then wouldn't hurt her any (if you know what I mean). I like to think tact

is

one of my strong points.

When doing simple jobs, she seems to think she needs more rest periods. She had to take a break when she was only half finished

mowing

the yard. I try not to make a scene. I'm a fair man. I tell her to fix herself a nice, big, cold glass of freshly squeezed lemonade and just sit for a while. And, as long as she is making one for herself,

she

may as well make one for me, too.

I know that I probably look like a saint in the way I support Julie. I'm not saying that showing this much consideration is easy.

Many

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men will find it difficult. Some will find it impossible!

Nobody knows better than I do how frustrating women get as they get older. However, guys, even if you just use a little more tact and less criticism of your aging wife because of this article, I will consider that writing it was well worthwhile. After all, we are put

on

this
earth to help each other... Ron

EDITOR'S NOTE: Ron died suddenly Thursday May 26. He was found with a Calloway extra long 50-inch Big Bertha Driver rammed up his backside with only 2 inches of grip showing... His wife Julie was arrested, but the all-woman Grand Jury accepted her defense, that he

accidentally

sat down on it.