

## **44. Lessons I Learned After It Was Too Late**

The most important lesson I ever learned, I learned too late, of course --

The little things hardly ever matter,  
and almost all things are little.

At one time in my life I worried about “little things.” These included paying bills, having the latest “in” clothes and other possessions, what others thought of me, and so on. Most little things related to me alone and were material in some way.

Because I can no longer remember the name of the boy I adored at fifteen or the girl whose snub hurt me at sixteen, I realize that most things, whether good or bad, pass in time. Integrity, pride in oneself, good health, an inquiring mind, family, and imagination are solid, lasting values which do matter. They are never “little” things.