



Who's Pete & why do we do stuff for his sake?

According to the “Free Dictionary of Idioms” the term *For Pete's Sake* is a “mild oath of exasperation, annoyance, frustration, anger, or surprise”. Ok, but why Pete? How did he get to be so special? The phrase is a substitute for “for God's sake”, which is blasphemy. “For heaven's sake” dates for the 1800s and “for Pete's sake” first appeared in 1924 in *Dialect Notes*. “For pity's sake” dates from the 1593. After all that research, I still don't know who Pete is.

This got me thinking (which is not always a *good* thing) about things we say and their strange origins. I think we, as Southerners, have cornered the market on strange idioms and sometimes there's just no other way to get your point across. Here are a few of my personal favorites.

- “Heavens to Betsy” is appropriate in nearly every Southern scenario. No, I don't know any more about Betsy than I do about Pete. Sorry.
- “I'm fixin' to” means it's going to happen, but I may also take my sweet time about doing it.
- “Let me let you go.” Since we'd never dare hang up the phone while Mama's chatting away, this may be the only way to end your conversation in a timely manner.
- “Cattywampus” may sound made up, but it's simply our multisyllabic manner of saying something is askew. It's a real thang, people.
- “Quit being ugly” has nothing to do with physical appearance. It means you are to mind your manners and stop acting inappropriately.
- “Can't never could” is positive thinking, Southern style.
- “He was funny as all get out” is used to intensify any statement—surprised as, bad as, etc. Anything to the degree of “all get out” is something to talk about.
- “Over yonder” is a distant direction in any direction. It may be followed by a gesture to get you started in the proper direction. This phrase may be intensified as in “way over yonder”. This means pack a snack.
- “Till the cows come home”. Settle in because whatever we're talking about is going to take all day. Cows aren't known for their speed and they only come home to eat.
- “Full as a tick” is usually heard after a big lunch complete with cornbread, collard greens & pecan pie.

- “Worn slap out” was something my daddy would say when he was just too tired, physically or mentally, to do anything else. This is a few degrees past weary and just this side of dog-tired.
- “Dad burn it”, when said through clenched teeth, has nothing to do with cooking. This was the closest thing my dad ever did to swearing. It was the ultimate in frustration usually heard after a thumb was hit with a hammer and was a signal for me to be very quiet until the throbbing stopped.

Now on to important stuff!

The Week February 20-28 is:

- Texas Cowboy Poetry Week
- National FFA Week
- National Sauna Week
- National Engineers Week

Some celebrations only last a day:

- 20th**-Love Your Pet Day
 Hoodie Hoo Day
 National Cherry Pie Day
 National Muffin Day
- 21st**-National Grain Free Day
 National Sticky Bun Day
 Presidents Day
- 22nd**-National Margarita Day
 Supermarket Employee Day
 Woolworth’s Day
 Cook a Sweet Potato Day
 Tex Avery Day
- 23rd**-Inconvenience Yourself Day
 Pink Shirt Day
 National Banana Bread Day

- 24th**-National Chili Day
 World Bartender Day
 International Toast Day
 National Dance Day
 National Tortilla Chip Day
- 25th**-Rubber Ducky Day
 Skip the Straw Day
 Chocolate Covered Nut Day
 National Clam Chowder Day
- 26th**-Set a Good Example Day
 For Pete’s Sake Day
 Sword Swallowers Day
 Personal Chef’s Day
 National Tell a Fairy Tale Day
 World Pistachio Day
- 27th**-International Polar Bear Day
 National Retro Day
 National Kahlua Day
 National Strawberry Day
- 28th**-Floral Design Day
 Chocolate Souffle Day
 Public Sleeping Day
 National Cupcake Day (Canada)
 Tooth Fairy Day
 Play More Cards Day
 Shrove Monday

Have a great week & call if you need anything!

Serving Him & Loving it!

Carol 😊

Pastor Bill 901-569-1428
 Pastor Cassie 678-492-3956
 Carol 803-360-7137

Happy Birthday in heaven, Dad. He would have been 82 on the 18th.