

Truly Significant

Fumes of Significance

I heard Dr. Eric Bryant talk about the fumes that we live in from our parents and grandparents. Of course, he was speaking metaphorically about past memories, remembered through the “snozz.”

This got me thinking about the positive fumes of significance and the funny, weird ones, too.

On nature & yards

- Honeysuckle on chain-link fences at dusk
- Mimosa blossoms after a sun shower
- Fresh-cut St. Augustine lawns; damp clippings stuck to my socks
- Pecan trees: green husks and the faint buttery smell of shelled nuts
- Mom’s tropicana roses and award winning irises
- The smell of rain on the pavement of Grand Avenue

Home & porch life

- Line-dried cotton sheets snapping in a south breeze
- Lemon oil on hardwood furniture and cedar-lined closets
- Breakfasts: bacon, biscuits, Mom’s crepe suzettes, coffee drifting out the screen door

Main Street, school & Saturdays

- Barbershop talc and Bay Rum aftershave from Ken Brawley’s and Crow’s
- Five-and-dime candy bins: warm peanuts, red licorice, bubble gum
- Drugstore fountain: vanilla syrup, cherry phosphates, Dr Pepper on crushed ice
- Library paste and fresh mimeograph handouts
- Church potlucks: fried chicken, yeasty rolls, and peach cobbler steam

Ballgames at Bearcat Stadium

- Buttered popcorn and Frito pie at Bearcat games
- Craig Banzer's smelly cigar. He smoked two at every game and we sat right behind him absorbing every puff.

Trains, trucks & fields (the good side of "industrial")

- Sun-warmed cotton bales and stray lint along the tracks
- New creosote ties (sharp, tarry, oddly reassuring when evening cooled)
- Sorghum and feed stores: dusty sacks of corn
- Fresh gasoline at full-service stations—rubber hoses dinging, windows squeegeed

Anderson-Clayton on its better days

- When the wind was kind, a toasty, nut-like note from cottonseed cooking—warm and cereal-ish—threading through the harsher plant smells.

Please share your favorite fumes and fragrances of your hometown.

Most Significant Podcast of the Week: Enjoy this conversation with futurist and AI guru Shane Tepper. <https://www.spreaker.com/episode/trulysignificant-com-presents-shane-tepper-guru-and-futurist-of-ai-s-large-language-model-optimization--67378421> Hear about the latest trends in AI that could influence you.

Special Thanks: We really appreciate each of you that have supplied a book review on Amazon for Truly Significant: Conversations with Big Hearted People. If you haven't submitted a review, please take a few minutes to help us out. Email me with any questions you may have on the review submission.

Quote of Significance Worth Pondering: "We must aim at making ourselves superfluous. The hour when we can say 'They need me no longer' should be our reward." This quote of significance highlights the goal of empowering others through service, so that they can eventually thrive independently. C.S. Lewis

Here's a productive week of significance. Rick