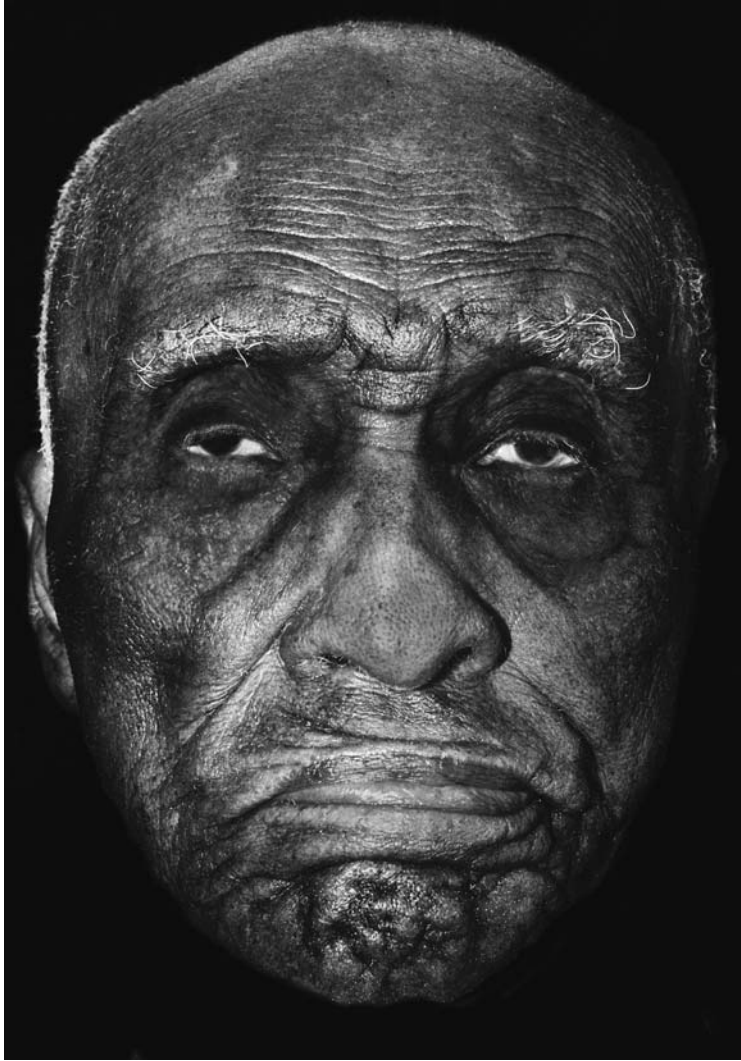


# THE 100+ CLUB

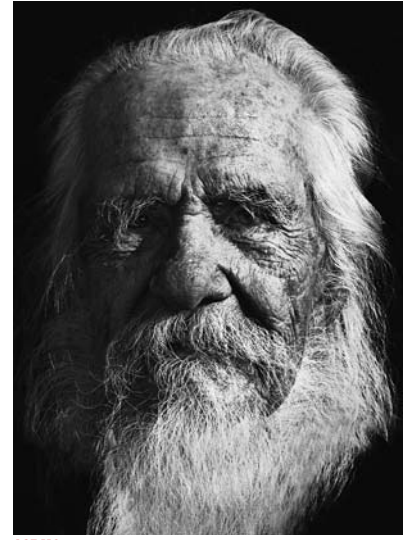


For more photographs visit [www.markstory.com/all](http://www.markstory.com/all)

American photographer Mark Story has been taking photographs of centenarians all over the world since 1987. Here are some of the faces of people who have lived through more than a century of joy, hardship and disappointment. Their stories not only reflect the secret to living a long life, they also remind us of our insatiable capacity to survive



**AGE 105**  
101 years ago, this Sicilian-born man's family went to the US by boat; he remembers his mother negotiating for food for his family and waving at the Statue of Liberty. At 18, while working at a Texas cement factory, the Mafia threatened to "take" family members. To escape the pressures of extortion, his family moved to southern California. In the '20s, he rode trains with hobos. While working in Yellowstone Park, he got to shake President Hoover's hand. He opened a flower business when he was 40 and retired from it three times, finally retiring at the age of 89. On his 105th birthday, he had a couple of glasses of red wine and danced with the girls, his doctor and the "blonde nurse".

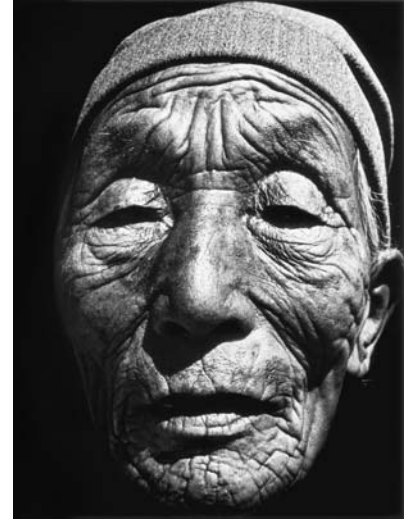


**AGE 110**  
Man of German and Irish descent. Several of his grandparents lived past 100. He served in World Wars I and II and then worked as a railroad brakeman. During the Depression he travelled much of the country riding the rails with hobos. At 102, he was walking 10km a day. Now he walks 5km a day and can still read the bottom three lines on an eye chart. He gave up drinking in his 60s, but smoked into his 80s. He continues to work a few hours a week at a tanning salon/espresso café. He said, "I still chase good-looking women around. I just can't catch up with them — my legs don't work fast enough."

**AGE 112**  
This African-American man is the 16th oldest living person in the world, and the oldest living man in the US. The oldest living World War I combat veteran, he earned the Victory Medal, the Occupational Medal and the Legion of Honour — France's highest honour given to surviving members of US Armed Forces who fought on French soil during World War I. He returned home to farming, married, had seven children, and served as the superintendent of his Sunday School class for 75 years. He never smoked or drank alcohol; and he takes no medicine, not even aspirin. He drove until the age of 106, when his children decided to hide his car keys from him.



**AGE 114**  
This African-American woman is the third oldest living person in the world, and the second oldest living woman in the US. Both her parents were slaves. The family ate the food they grew. She never watched her diet and was never heavy. She never smoked or drank, and was 100 years old when she first saw a doctor. She was married to her second husband for 72 years and has three children, five grandchildren, 46 great-grandchildren, 95 great-great-grandchildren, and 38 great-great-great-grandchildren.



**AGE 101**  
This Mongolian woman has lived through 19 life-killing droughts and 47 years of brutal Communist repression. Historically, the Communists did not like the independent spirit of the Mongolian people. When photographed she was 1.2m tall, 30kg, and in perfect health.