

I'M MY OWN GRANDPA (DWIGHT LATHAM & MOE JAFFE) *

C **7**
Many, many years ago when I was twenty-three

(G7) **C**
I was married to a widow who was pretty as can be

C7 **F**
This widow had a grown-up daughter who had hair of red

D7 **G**
My father fell in love with her and soon they two were wed

This made my dad my son-in-law and changed my very life
For my daughter was my mother 'cause she was my father's wife
To complicate the matter even though it brought me joy
I soon became the father of a bouncing baby boy

This bouncing baby boy became a brother-in-law to Dad
And so became my uncle, though it made me very sad
For if he was my uncle, then that also made him brother
Of the widow's grown-up daughter who of course was my stepmother

Chorus:

C **G** **C** **F** **D** **G**
Oh I'm my own grandpa; I'm my own grandpa

C **C7** **F**
It sounds funny I know, but it really is so

C **G** **C**
Oh I'm my own grandpa

Father's wife then had a son who kept them on the run
And he became my grandchild, for he was my daughter's son
My wife is now my mother's mother and it makes me blue
Because although she is my wife, she's my grandmother too

Now if my wife is my grandmother, then I'm her grandchild
And every time I think of it, it nearly drives me wild
For now I have become the strangest case I ever saw

As husband of my grandmother, I am my own grandpa (Chorus)

In the 1930s, Latham had a group, the Jesters, on network radio; their specialties were bits of spoken humor and novelty songs. While reading a book of Mark Twain anecdotes, he once found a paragraph in which Twain proved it would be possible for a man to become his own grandfather. In 1947, Latham and Jaffe expanded the idea into a song, which became a hit for Lonzo and Oscar.