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Long Generations

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The average generation is usually accepted as being on the average thirty years or roughly three generations per century. Occasionally, because of huge age differences between an older husband and a younger wife, children born late in the life of the father will obviously lengthen the generations.

Mrs. Eva Svahn Grönberg of Stockholm, Sweden has furnished the following unique case, published in the Swedish genealogical journal, Släkt och Hävd, 1984, p. 141:

On 1 Oct. 1983 Miss Elna Fernström of Eskilstuna celebrated her 95th birthday, having been born in 1888. Her paternal grandfather, Johan Gustaf Fernström, a city councillor in the city of Skara in Västergötland, was born 8 May 1793. His youngest son, Harald Fernström, was born in 1855, when his father was 62 years of age. Harald Fernström in turn became the father of Elna. Thus Miss Fernström, living at the end of the 20th century, has a grandfather, born in the late 18th century—making three generations in 190 years.