

# Happy Birthday General Thread

**Post by "Cassius" of October 1, 2023 at 7:34 AM**

Thanks for the birthday wishes. Before this gets too confusing I better point people to this post from Don and my reply on my timeline here at the forum:



Don · 2 hours ago

Shared something on on the timeline of [Cassius](#).

By Zeus! Happy Birthday, Cassius!! So, should we have "a customary celebration on the first day of the month of October" to celebrate the founder of our little online community here from now on? How have I missed that date in the past! A joyous birthday to you!



x 1

2 comments

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Cassius · An hour ago

Because of your nice note I am going to tell you something I have not shared previously, but I am going to say now "publicly" and change for the record. When I set up this forum and my profile it seemed like a good idea to obfuscate my date of birth for privacy reasons. That is now going to change and this is why: (1) At this point in time the NSA and most of the rest of the world knows everything about everyone so little is served by fudging. (2) Further, I was watching a documentary the other day that reminded me of a fact that I had long forgotten: Apparently it is recorded that during the battle of Philippi my "namesake" Cassius Longinus stated that his birthday was October 3. Well in truth, and by total coincidence against odds of 365 to 1, my own birthday is in fact October 3. So I might as well let it be known that the real significance of October 3 as a day worthy of remembrance is that it is the birthday of the man who stood up to Cicero, defended Epicurus to his face, and caused Cicero to express public doubt and admit that he might have underestimated the philosophy of Epicurus. Now \*that\* is a man whose birthdate is worth celebrating. It will no doubt confuse the "birthday bot" here in the forum software, but I am correcting my birthday to its actual date, October 3rd, and telling this little factoid to make it more memorable in honor of the real Cassius. Cassius may have taken or been given the nickname of "liberator," but his real distinction was what he accomplished for Epicurus.

*"For I hope that men generally will come to understand how much all the world hates cruelty, and how much it loves integrity and clemency, and that the blessings most eagerly sought and coveted by the bad ultimately find their way to the good. For it is hard to convince men that "the good is to be chosen for its own sake"; but that pleasure and tranquillity of mind is acquired by virtue, justice, and the good is both true and demonstrable. Why, Epicurus himself, from whom all the Catiuses and Amafiniuses [in the world](#), incompetent translators of terms as they are, derive their origin, lays it down that "to live a life of pleasure is impossible without living a life of virtue and justice".*



Don · An hour ago

Well played! And a fascinating historical alignment. Hey, maybe years from now there will be as much controversy on the birth date of the Cassiuses as there is on Epicurus! 😄