

Introduction to Smart Phones

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Richard Kershenbaum

What is a Smart Phone?

- No exact definition exists
- “You know it when you see it.”
- All cell phones have microcomputers
- Most cell phones have some of the capabilities of a Smart Phone:
 - Phone Book
 - Calendar
 - Maybe even a web browser

What isn't smart about your current phone?

- It's not easy to sync address book and calendar with your computer.
- You probably can't easily update software, or install new software.
- You probably can't get e-mail easily.
- The screen it probably tiny.
- It's a *phone* with some capabilities of a computer.

A Smart Phone is different

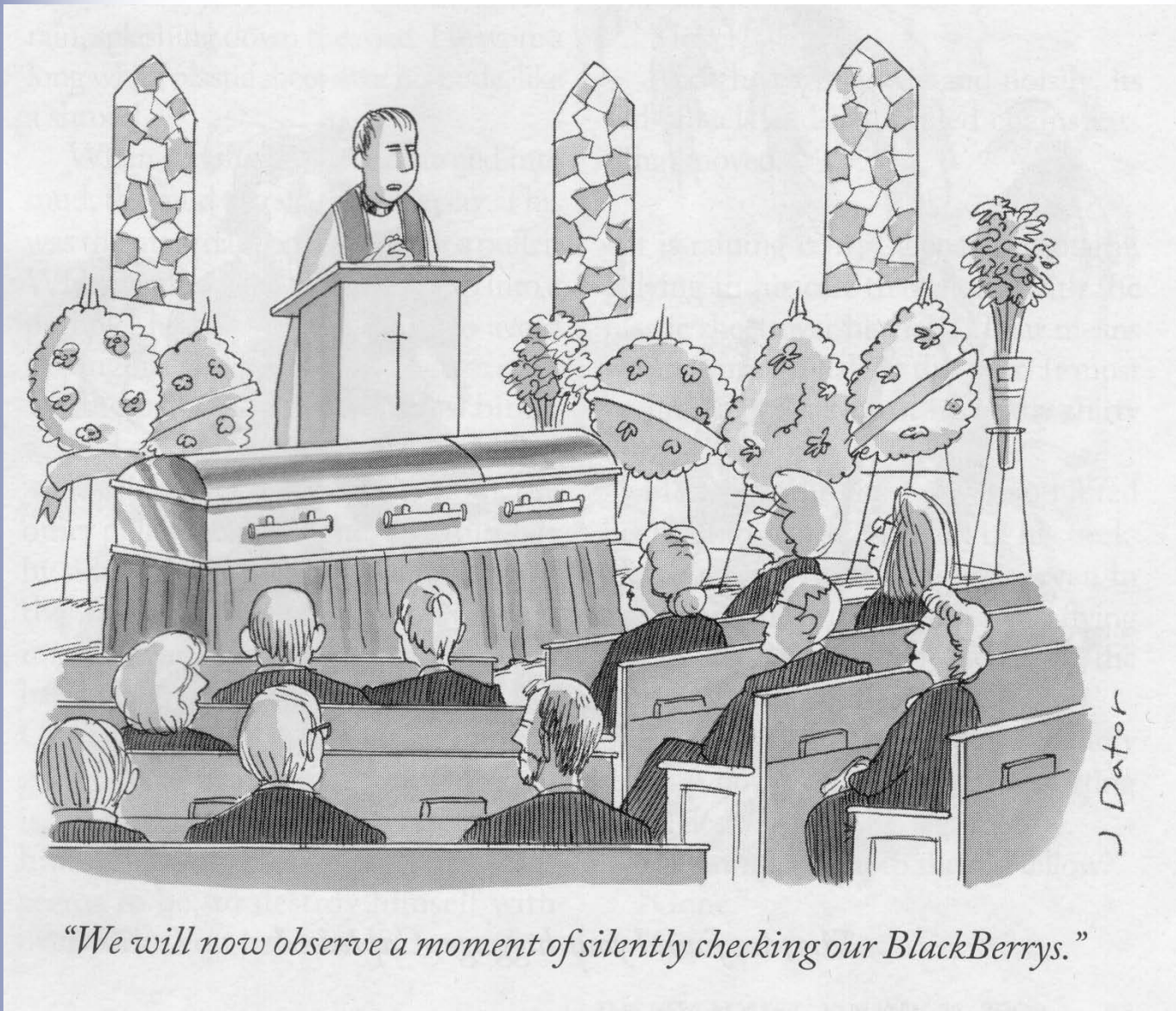
- It's made to easily sync contacts and calendar with your computer.
- It probably has a larger screen.
- It can access the Web and other Internet services.
- You can send & receive e-mail anywhere you are.
- You can usually install additional applications and updates yourself.

So a Smart Phone is really...

- A handheld computer that *also* acts as a phone.
- A device designed to access internet services – e-mail, web, etc. anywhere you are.
- A device that runs an identifiable operating system (just as your home computer runs Windows, MacOS, or Linux).

History

- First Smart Phones were developed in the early 1990s.
- The first to become popular in the US was the Handspring (now Palm) Treo, introduced in 2002.
 - Handspring married the Palm Pilot operating system to a phone.
- RIM Blackberry introduced in 2002.
 - Became known as “Crackberry”



"We will now observe a moment of silently checking our BlackBerrys."

History

- Until recently, Smart Phones were aimed primarily at business customers – not individuals.
- They were fairly expensive, but were seen to increase the productivity of staff on the run.
- Costs are coming down fast, and more individual users want the same capabilities.

Flavors of Smart Phones

- PalmOS – losing popularity fast
- RIM Blackberry
- Windows Mobile
 - User interface has commonality with Windows desktop
 - Interoperates well with Windows
- Apple Iphone – emphasizes touch interface
- Google Android – still really new

Is a Smart Phone for you?

- They're still (at least a little) more expensive.
- They're a lot more complex
 - More things can go wrong (especially when new products are rushed out the door)
 - It takes time to learn to use one (but you don't have to use all the features on day 1).
- They're a little bulkier

But...

- Being able to get e-mail, news, weather, stock quotes anywhere really is addictive.
- There are lots of cool add-on applications.
- Smart Phones are getting
 - Smaller
 - Cheaper
 - More stable
 - Easier to use

Live Smart Phone Demo

- Sprint HTC Touch
- Windows Mobile operating system
- All Smart Phones are different.
- But most have similar capabilities.