

## Why Far Too Many Take Social Security Far Too Soon

**"Dying is cheap. You die, the bills stop. Living, now that's expensive. Each year is another year of housing, clothing and feeding yourself, but to mention medical expenses. And, trust me, when you're really old you need money, lots of it – for the hearing aids, the dentures, the special glasses, the home health aides – none of which is covered by Medicare. So we can't play the averages when it comes to insuring against life-span risk, any more than we can play the averages, when it comes to homeowners insurance. We have to focus on the worse case scenarios – living too long and the house burning down. Financially speaking, early death is salvation. Late death is penury. So believing you will die young and acting on that belief when it comes to collecting Social Security is jinxing yourself for sure." (Lawrence Kotlikoff in the Seattle Times)**