

GEORGE WASHINGTON

1732-1799
1st President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: **"Father of His Country"**

First Lady: **Martha Dandridge Custis (married 1759)**

Children: **John and Martha (both adopted)**

Born: **February 22, 1732, in Pope Creek, Virginia**

Died: **December 14, 1799, in Mount Vernon, Virginia**

Cause of death: **Streptococcal infection of the larynx**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Federalist**

Vice-President: **John Adams**

Presidential years: **1789-1797**

Reason for leaving office: **retired**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1789- John Adams**
- **Election 1792- John Adams**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Formation of the Federal Government-** Washington got the new government going.
- **War between Britain and France-** U.S. claimed neutrality in this war.
- **Disputes in the Northwest Territory-** Settlers and native tribes fought over the frontier land.
- **Whiskey Rebellion- (1791)** The federal government sent in volunteer troops to enforce the law ordering a tax on whiskey and to prove it had the power to enforce its laws.

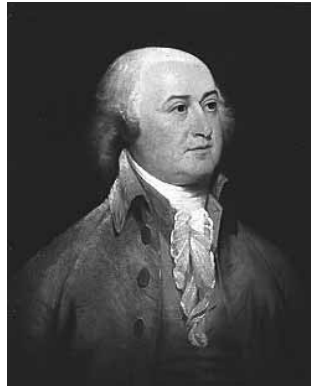
INTERESTING FACTS:

- Some people think George Washington's false teeth were made from wood. He had several sets, but made from human teeth, animal teeth, or tusks –not wood.
- Washington was the first delegate to sign the United States Constitution on September 17, 1787.
- George Washington refused to accept the \$25,000 per year presidential salary.

JOHN ADAMS

1735-1826

2nd President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: “Atlas of Independence”

First Lady: **Abigail Smith (married 1764)**

Children: **Abigail, John Quincy, Susanna, Charles, Thomas**

Born: **October 30, 1735, in Braintree (now Quincy), Massachusetts**

Died: **July 4, 1826, in Braintree (now Quincy), Massachusetts**

Cause of death: **Weakness from long-term illness**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Federalist**

Vice-President: **Thomas Jefferson**

Presidential years: **1797-1801**

Reason for leaving office: **lost reelection bid in 1800 to Thomas Jefferson**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1796- Thomas Jefferson**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Alien and Sedition Acts-** (1778) These acts were passed to protect U.S. security. They made it hard to organize opposition to the government.
- **XYZ Affair-** (1796) Three French aides demanded \$250,000 before they would listen to the three diplomats Adams sent to help soothe French anger with the United States. This brought the two countries to the brink of war.
- **Johnny Appleseed-** The exploits of John Chapman grew into the legendary tales of Johnny Appleseed.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- John Adams was the first president to live in the White House.
- John Adams spoke with a lisp during his presidency because he had very few teeth left.

THOMAS JEFFERSON

1735-1826
3rd President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: “**Man of the People**” or “**Red Fox**”

First Lady: **Martha Wayles Skelton (married 1772)**

Children: **Martha, Jane, Mary, Lucy**

Born: **April 13, 1734**, in **Shadwell, Virginia**

Died: **July 4, 1826**, in **Charlottesville, Virginia**

Cause of death: **Prolonged illness; possibly dehydration**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Democratic-Republican**

Vice-President: **Aaron Burr (1st term), George Clinton (2nd term)**

Presidential years: **1801-1809**

Reason for leaving office: **retired**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1800- Aaron Burr, John Adams**
- **Election 1804- Charles C. Pinkney**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Barbary Pirates-** Ruthless pirates attacked merchant ships and kidnapped sailors. The U.S. paid them money so they would not attack U.S. ships.
- **Marbury vs. Madison-** This court case established the principle of judicial review.
- **Embargo Act-** An act that put in place a trade embargo against all of Europe.
- **Louisiana Purchase-** (1803) This purchase expanded the U.S. territory from the Mississippi River to the Rocky Mountains.
- **12th Amendment-** (1804) This amendment changed presidential election rules.
- **Lewis and Clark Expedition-** (1807) Explorers mapped the Northwest territories.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Thomas Jefferson died the same day as John Adams (July 4, 1826) exactly 50 years after the Declaration of Independence was signed.

JAMES MADISON

1751-1836
4th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: **"Father of Our Constitution"**

First Lady: **Dolley Dandridge Payne Todd (married 1794)**

Children: **None**

Born: **March 16, 1751, in Port Conway, Virginia**

Died: **June 28, 1836, in Orange County, Virginia**

Cause of death: **Heart failure**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Democratic-Republican**

Vice-President: **George Clinton and Elbridge Gerry**

Presidential years: **1809-1817**

Reason for leaving office: **retired**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1808- Charles C. Pinkney**
- **Election 1812- DeWitt Clinton**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Macon's Bill Number Two-** A deal offered to both Great Britain and France that said if one of them agreed to respect U.S. neutrality, trade would be cut off with the other.
- **War of 1812-** The U.S. declared war on Great Britain. This war was ended with the Treaty of Ghent in 1815.
- **Star-Spangled Banner-** (1814) The current national anthem was written by Francis Scott Key when he was a prisoner of the British during the bombardment of Fort McHenry.
- **Era of Good Feelings-** After the end of the War of 1812, a period of less political infighting began.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- At 5'4" tall and 100 pounds, James Madison was the smallest president.
- Madison's picture is on the \$5,000 bill.
- Madison was a diabetic.

JAMES MONROE

1758-1831
5th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: "The Era of Good Feeling President"

First Lady: **Elizabeth Kortright (married 1786)**

Children: **Eliza, Maria**

in: **April 28, 1758, Wesmoreland County, Virginia**

Died: **July 4, 1831, in New York, New York**

Cause of death: **Tuberculosis**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Democratic-Republican**

Vice-President: **Daniel D. Tompkins**

Presidential years: **1817-1825**

Reason for leaving office: **retired**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1816- Rufus King**
- **Election 1820- ran unopposed**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Missouri Compromise-** (1820) This compromise established a line between North and South on the basis of which states could own slaves
- **New England Factories-** Shifted the New England economy from shipping to manufacturing.
- **Monroe Doctrine-** (1823) A policy warning European nations not to try to establish new colonies in the Americas.
- **New States-** Mississippi, Illinois, Alabama, Maine, and Missouri became states, and Florida was acquired from Spain.

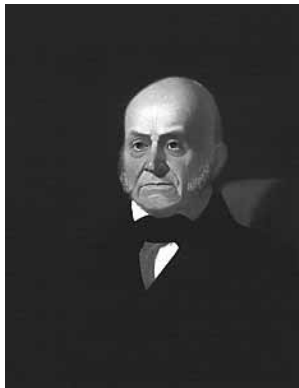
INTERESTING FACTS:

- Monroe was one of the three presidents involved in the Revolutionary War to die on Independence Day.
- The capital of Liberia is Monrovia, named after James Monroe.

JOHN Q. ADAMS

1767-1848

6th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: "Old Man Eloquent"

First Lady: **Louisa Catherine Johnson (married 1794)**

Children: **George, John, Charles, Louisa**

Born: **July 11, 1767**, in **Braintree (Quincy today), Massachusetts**

Died: **February 23, 1848**, in **Nashville, Tennessee**

Cause of death: **Massive stroke**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Democratic-Republican**

Vice-President: **John C. Calhoun**

Presidential years: **1825-1829**

Reason for leaving office: **lost reelection to Andrew Jackson; went on to serve in Congress after the presidency**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1824- Andrew Jackson**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Erie Canal-** Completed in 1825.
- **B & O Railroad-** (1828) Tracks being laid for the first steam engine line designed for passengers and freight.
- **American System-** A plan to create projects designed to improve and upgrade the country's infrastructure (roads, bridges, and canals) for the benefit of trade.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Adams's father was the 2nd president of the United States.
- Adams had a pet alligator that he kept in the White House.
- Adams's wife, Louisa, was the only foreign-born first lady.

ANDREW JACKSON

1767-1845
7th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: "Old Hickory"

First Lady: **Rachel Donelson Robards (married officially 1794)**

Children: **None**

Born: **March 15, 1767, in Waxhaw, South Carolina**

Died: **June 8, 1845, in Nashville, Tennessee**

Cause of death: **Chronic tuberculosis**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Democrat**

Vice-President: **John C. Calhoun**

Presidential years: **1829-1837**

Reason for leaving office: **retired**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1828- John Adams**
- **Election 1832- Henry Clay**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

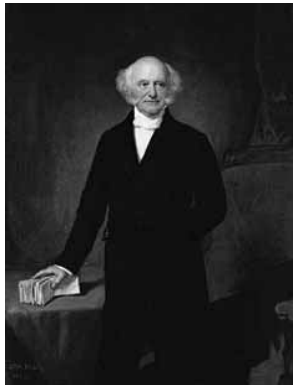
- **Tom Thumb-** (1830) America's first steam-powered railroad locomotive (only 20 feet long) was demonstrated on B&O railroad line.
- **Indian Removal Act of 1830-** Native tribes were moved from the south to lands west of the Mississippi.
- **Second National Bank-** Jackson took out all the federal money from this bank and moved it to state banks, leading to a rush of land purchases.
- **Specie Circular Act-** (1836) Buyers of federal land could no longer use paper money; they had to use gold or silver.
- **Remember the Alamo-** (1836) Davy Crockett died with many Texans defending the fort at Alamo in San Antonio from the Mexicans.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Jackson got his nickname from the troops he commanded. He slept on the ground with his men and ate the same poor food they did.

MARTIN VAN BUREN

1782-1862
8th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: **"The Little Magician"** or **"Old Kinderhook"**

First Lady: **Hannah Hoes (married 1807)**

Children: **Abraham, John, Martin, Smith**

Born: **December 5, 1782**, in **Kinderhook, New York**

Died: **July 24, 1862**, in **Kinderhook, New York**

Cause of death: **Weakened from bronchial asthma**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Democrat**

Vice-President: **Richard M. Johnson**

Presidential years: **1837-1841**

Reason for leaving office: **lost reelection bid to William H. Harrison**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1836- William H. Harrison**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

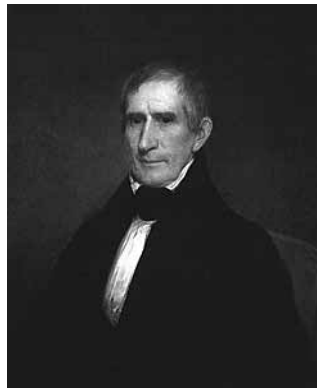
- **Trail of Tears-** (1838) Fifteen thousand Cherokees were forced to march from Georgia to Oklahoma. Over one-fourth of them died on this journey.
- **The Panic of 1837-** This began when banks stopped converting paper money into gold and silver. A depression followed.
- **Independent Treasury Act-** This set up an independent treasury run by the government. It was done to protect federal money.
- **Caroline Affair-** The sinking of an American steamship by the British near Canada that almost caused a war.
- **Slavery Issue-** The issue was becoming increasingly volatile.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Martin Van Buren was the first president to be nominated by the Democratic Party.

WILLIAM H. HARRISON

1773-1841
9th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: "Old Tippecanoe"

First Lady: **Anna Tuthill Symmes (married 1795)**

Children: **Elizabeth, John Cleves, Lucy, William, John Scott, Benjamin, Mary, Carter, Anna, James**

Born: **February 9, 1773**, in **Berkeley, Virginia**

Died: **April 4, 1841**, in **Washington, D.C.**

Cause of death: **Pneumonia**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Whig**

Vice-President: **John Tyler**

Presidential years: **1841**

Reason for leaving office: **died of pneumonia after one month in office**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1840- Martin Van Buren**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Slavery**- Slavery remained major issue between the North and South
- **Depression**- The nation's economy was still in trouble.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Harrison's father Benjamin was one of the signers of the Constitution.
- Harrison was the first president to study medicine.
- Harrison had the shortest presidency.

JOHN TYLER
1790-1862
10th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: **"The Accidental President"**

First Ladies: **Letitia Christian (married 1813 and died 1842), Julia Gardiner (married 1844)**

Children: **Mary, Robert, John, Letitia, Elizabeth, Anne, Alice, Tazewell, David, John Alexander, Julia, Lachlan, Lyon, Robert Fitzgerald, Pearl**

Born: **March 29, 1790, in Charles City County, Virginia**

Died: **January 18, 1862, in Richmond, Virginia**

Cause of death: **Bronchitis**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Whig**

Vice-President: **None**

Presidential years: **1841-1845**

Reason for leaving office: **did not run for election after he was thrown out of the Whig Party**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **none- became president when Harrison died**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Webster-Ashburn Treaty-** It set the U.S./Canadian border from the Atlantic Ocean to the Rocky Mountains.
- **Massive Immigration-** (1840s) Great numbers of Europeans came to the U.S.
- **Oregon Trail-** (1843) Wagon trains full of people set off on this trail to the lands of Oregon.
- **New State-** Texas was admitted to the Union in 1845.
- **U.S. Weather Bureau-** This organization was founded.

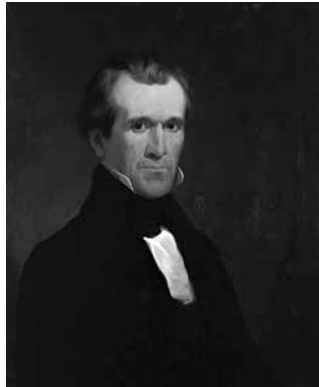
INTERESTING FACTS:

- Tyler was the first president to be wed while in office.
- He was the president with the most children (15).
- He was the only president to hold an office in the Confederacy.

JAMES K. POLK

1795-1849

11th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: "Young Hickory"

First Lady: **Sarah Childress (married 1824)**

Children: **None**

Born: **November 2, 1795**, in **Mecklenburg County, North Carolina**

Died: **June 15, 1849**, in **Nashville, Tennessee**

Cause of death: **Cholera (an intestinal infection)**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Democrat**

Vice-President: **George M. Dallas**

Presidential years: **1845-1849**

Reason for leaving office: **promised in his campaign to retire after one term**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1844- Henry Clay**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

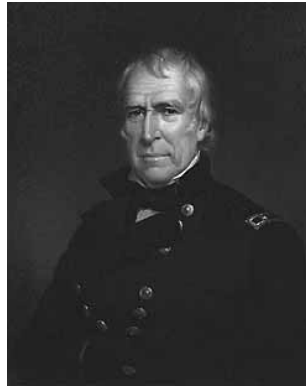
- **Manifest Destiny-** The belief that the United States must spread democracy from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific affected expansion.
- **Oregon Treaty-** (1846) This treaty with Great Britain gave the U.S. the land that is today Oregon and Washington states.
- **Mexican War-** This war was a fight over the Texas southern border.
- **Treaty of 1848-** From Mexico, the U.S. acquired New Mexico and California.
- **California Gold Rush-** (1849) Thousands of people, nicknamed *forty-niners*, went to California to join the search for gold.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Polk was the first president to govern the U.S. from the Atlantic to the Pacific.
- Polk survived gallstone surgery when he was 17 without anesthesia or antiseptic.

ZACHARY TAYLOR

1784-1850
12th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: “**Old Rough and Ready**”

First Lady: **Margaret Mackall Smith (married 1810)**

Children: **Anne, Sarah, Octavia, Margaret, Mary, Richard**

Born: **November 24, 1784, in Orange County, Virginia**

Died: **July 9, 1850, in Buffalo, New York**

Cause of death: **Cholera (an intestinal infection)**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Whig**

Vice-President: **Millard Fillmore**

Presidential years: **1849-1850**

Reason for leaving office: **died one year into his term from cholera**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1848- Lewis Cass**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Slavery-** The issue as to how the territory acquired in the Mexican Cession would be divided was a source of debate.
- **Threats of Seceding from the Union-** Southern States were threatening to leave the Union (secede) over the slavery issue.
- **Clayton-Bulwer Treaty-** (1850) Agreement with Great Britain that any future canal built across Central America would be open to all.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Taylor was related to James Madison and Robert E. Lee.
- Taylor rode into battle sidesaddle.

MILLARD FILLMORE

1800-1874
13th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: **"The American Louis Philippe"**

First Lady: **Abigail Powers (married 1826 and died of pneumonia in 1853), Caroline Carmichael McIntosh (married 1858)**

Children: **Millard, Mary**

Born: **January 7, 1800, in Cayuga County, New York**

Died: **March 8, 1874, in Buffalo, New York**

Cause of death: **died within months of having two strokes**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Whig**

Vice-President: **None**

Presidential years: **1850-1853**

Reason for leaving office: **was not nominated by his party to run for president in 1852**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **none- became president when Taylor died**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

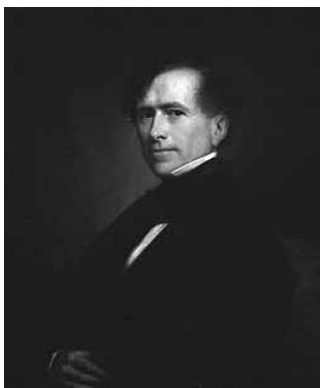
- **Fugitive Slave Act-** This act said it was the responsibility of the federal government to return runaway slaves to their owners.
- **Compromise of 1850-** The Fugitive Slave Act was part of this compromise. This caused great turmoil between the North and South.
- **Trade Route to Japan-** (1853) Matthew Perry sailed to Japan to get the Japanese to open their ports to trade with U.S.
- **Uncle Tom's Cabin published-** (1852) Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote this controversial anti-slavery novel to convince people how terrible slavery was.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Fillmore was the last Whig president.
- Fillmore established the first permanent library in the White House.

FRANKLIN PIERCE

1804-1869
14th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: "Young Hickory of the Granite Hills"

First Lady: **Jane Means Appleton (married 1834)**

Children: **Franklin, Frank Robert, Benjamin**

Born: **November 23, 1804**, in **Hillsborough, New Hampshire**

Died: **October 8, 1869**, in **Concord, New Hampshire**

Cause of death: **Stomach inflammation; probable cirrhosis of the liver**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Democrat**

Vice-President: **William R. King**

Presidential years: **1853-1857**

Reason for leaving office: **retired when he wasn't nominated by his party**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1852- Winfield Scott**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Gadsden Purchase-** (1853) The \$10 million dollar purchase of parts of today's Arizona and New Mexico.
- **Kansas-Nebraska Act-** (1854) This act set the route for the first transcontinental railroad. It created problems in what became known as Bleeding Kansas, due to fighting over slavery there.
- **Railroads-** (1850s) It was a boom time for the railroads.
- **Blue Jeans-** Levi Strauss traveled to California during the Gold Rush to open a dry goods store. With the blue denim he brought with him, he stitched sturdy work clothes, later called blue jeans.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- He was the first president to have a Christmas tree in the White House.
- He was the first president born in the 19th century.
- He was a heavy drinker.

JAMES BUCHANAN

1791-1868
15th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: "Old Buck"

First Lady: **None (Harriet Lane, his niece, acted as White House hostess)**

Children: **None**

Born: **April 23, 1791**, in **Cove Gap, Pennsylvania**

Died: **June 1, 1868**, in **Wheatland, Pennsylvania**

Cause of death: **Respiratory failure**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Democrat**

Vice-President: **John C. Breckinridge**

Presidential years: **1857-1861**

Reason for leaving office: **retired**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1856- John Fremont**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Lecompton Constitution-** Provided a pro-slavery constitution for Kansas. The people of Kansas voted this down and became a free state. Civil War seemed inevitable.
- **Dred Scott Decision-** (1857) Supreme Court ruled slaves were property.
- **Secession-** Seven states left the Union before Buchanan left office.
- **Lincoln-Douglas Debates-** (1858) These two debaters, while vying for the U.S. Senate seat in Illinois, had some exceptional debates on slavery.
- **Pony Express-** (1860) Service began that provided prompt mail delivery across the unsettled American West, by horseback.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- He was the only U.S. President who never was married.
- Buchanan often tipped his head to the left and closed one eye when talking to people. He was far-sighted in one eye and near-sighted in the other.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

1809-1865
16th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: "**Honest Abe**"

First Lady: **Mary Todd (married 1842)**

Children: **Robert, Edward, William, Thomas**

Born: **February 12, 1809**, in **Hardin County, Kentucky**

Died: **April 16, 1865**, in **Washington, D.C.**

Cause of death: **Gunshot wound**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Republican**

Vice-President: **Hannibal Hamlin, Andrew Johnson (1865)**

Presidential years: **1861-1865**

Reason for leaving office: **assassinated**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1860- John L. Breckinridge**
- **Election 1864- George B. McClellan**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Secession-** The states leaving the Union formed the Confederate States of the United States.
- **Civil War-** (1861-1865) The Civil War began at Bull Run in Virginia. President Lincoln struggled to preserve the Union.
- **Homestead Act-** (1862) Gave 160 acres of public land free to anyone who would farm it for five years.
- **Emancipation Proclamation-** Freed the slaves in areas of rebellion.
- **Gettysburg Address-** (1863) Lincoln made this inspirational speech outlining why this war was being fought at the battlefield cemetery located at Gettysburg.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- First president to wear a beard while in office.
- Lincoln dreamed of his death one week before it happened.

ANDREW JOHNSON

1808-1875
17th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: **"Tennessee Tailor"**

First Lady: **Eliza McCardle (married 1827)**

Children: **Martha, Charles, Mary, Robert, Andrew**

Born: **December 29, 1808**, in **Raleigh, North Carolina**

Died: **July 31, 1875**, in **Carter's Station, Tennessee**

Cause of death: **Two strokes within two days**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **National Union**

Vice-President: **None**

Presidential years: **1865-1869**

Reason for leaving office: **not nominated by his party after surviving impeachment proceedings**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **none- became president when Lincoln was assassinated**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Thirteenth Amendment-** This amendment abolished slavery and liberated all slaves.
- **Fourteenth Amendment-** This amendment made former slaves citizens of the United States and gave them equal protection under laws.
- **Black Codes-** Adopted by Southern States denying African-Americans citizenship and, therefore, the right to vote.
- **Civil Rights Act 1866-** All Americans regardless of skin color could vote.
- **Tenure of Office Act-** The president could not remove certain government officials without Senate approval. Unsuccessful impeachment proceedings were held against Johnson for violating this act.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Johnson never went to school. His wife taught him to read and write.
- He was the only president to make his own clothes.

ULYSSES S. GRANT

1822-1885
18th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: “**Hero of the Appomattox**”

First Lady: **Julia Boggs Dent (married 1848)**

Children: **Frederick, Ulysses, Ellen, Jesse**

Born: **April 27, 1822**, in **Point Pleasant, Ohio**

Died: **July 22, 1885**, in **Mount McGregor, New York**

Cause of death: **Cancer of the tongue and tonsils**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Republican**

Vice-President: **Schuyler Colfax, Henry Wilson**

Presidential years: **1869-1877**

Reason for leaving office: **retired**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1868- Horatio Seymour**
- **Election 1872- Horace Greeley**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Reconstruction-** The south had to be rebuilt and civil rights enforced.
- **Civil Rights Act of 1875-** This act said that all hotels, theaters, and restaurants had to be integrated.
- **Black Friday-** (1869) A government scandal caused a major gold crash. Recession followed.
- **Telephone-** (1876) Alexander Graham Bell received a patent for the telephone.
- **Great Chicago Fire-** (1871) This fire burned down much of the city, leaving many homeless.
- **Custer's Last Stand-** (1876) All men were lost in the Battle of Little Big Horn.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Bankrupt, Grant hurriedly finished his autobiography four days before he died of lung cancer, so his family would have money after he was gone.
- Grant smoked up to 20 cigars a day.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES

1822-1893
19th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: **"Dark Horse President"**

First Lady: **Lucy Ware Webb (married 1848)**

Children: **Sardis, James, Rutherford, Joseph, George, Frances, Scott, Manning**

Born: **October 4, 1822, in Delaware, Ohio**

Died: **January 17, 1893, in Fremont, Ohio**

Cause of death: **Heart disease**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Republican**

Vice-President: **William A. Wheeler**

Presidential years: **1877-1881**

Reason for leaving office: **retired (promised he would not run for a second term)**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1876- Samuel J. Tilden**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Railroad Strikes-** Workers went on strike when their wages were cut. Hayes put them back to work by force, killing and injuring many.
- **Treaty of 1880-** This treaty limited Chinese immigration.
- **Executive Order Issued in 1877-** This order barred civil servants from taking part in political activities.
- **Light Bulb-** (1879) Thomas Edison demonstrated the light bulb.
- **End of Reconstruction-** Federal troops were pulled from the South.
- **Indian Wars-** Treaties with tribes were being violated and they were fighting back.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Hayes' wife was nicknamed **"Lemonade Lucy"** because she banned alcohol in the White House.

JAMES H. GARFIELD

1831-1881
20th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: **"Preacher President"**

First Lady: **Lucretia Rudolph (married 1858)**

Children: **Eliza, Harry, James, Mary, Irvin, Abraham, Edward**

Born: **November 29, 1831, in Orange, Ohio**

Died: **September 19, 1881, in Elberon, New Jersey**

Cause of death: **Blood poisoning after gunshot**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Republican**

Vice-President: **Chester A. Arthur**

Presidential years: **1881**

Reason for leaving office: **assassinated**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1880- Winfield S. Hancock**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Jesse James and the James Gang**- This band of brothers robbed banks and civilian trains after the Civil War. Many colorful stories were written about their criminal activities.
- **Credit-Mobilier Scandal**- Garfield's past included being involved in a scandal involving the Union Pacific stockholders and misuse of federal money. People thought he would bring scandal to the White House. He proved them wrong.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Garfield was able to write Greek with one hand and Latin with the other at the same time.
- Garfield was the only president to have been a preacher.
- He was the first left-handed president.

CHESTER ARTHUR

1829-1886
21st President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: **"The Gentleman Boss"**

First Lady: **Ellen Lewis Herndon (married 1859)**

Children: **William, Chester Jr., Ellen**

Born: **October 5, 1829**, in **Fairfield, Vermont**

Died: **November 18, 1886**, in **New York, New York**

Cause of death: **Bright's Disease (a fatal kidney disease)**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Republican**

Vice-President: **None**

Presidential years: **1881-1885**

Reason for leaving office: **retired (knew he had a fatal kidney disease)**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **none- became president when Garfield died**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Postal System-** Arthur changed the postal system to give better and cheaper service.
- **Modernizing Ships-** Arthur brought the U.S. Navy up to date.
- **Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882-** This act halted Chinese immigration for ten years and kept Chinese already in the States from becoming citizens.
- **Pendleton Act-** (1883) This act reformed civil service by creating competitive exams for the jobs.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- It was said that some called him "Elegant Arthur" because his wardrobe was so big, including eighty pairs of pants.
- Arthur very rarely went to bed before two o'clock in the morning.

GROVER CLEVELAND

1837-1908

22/24th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: **"Uncle Jumbo"**

First Lady: **Francis Folsom (married 1886)**

Children: **Ruth, Esther, Marion, Richard, Francis**

Born: **March 18, 1837, in Caldwell, New Jersey**

Died: **June 24, 1908, in Princeton, New Jersey**

Cause of death: **Coronary sclerosis or possibly stroke**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Democrat**

Vice-President: **Thomas A. Hendricks, Adlai E. Stevenson**

Presidential years: **1885-1889, 1893-1897**

Reason for leaving office: **not reelected after first term; returned to Presidency four years later, and then retired**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1884- James G. Blaine**
- **Election 1892- Benjamin Harrison**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

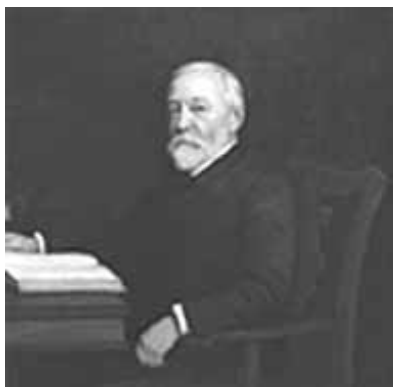
- **Dawes Severalty Act of 1887-** This act granted citizenship to Indians who renounced their tribe; in return they got a small parcel of reservation land to live on.
- **Repeal of the Sherman Silver Purchase Act-** (1893) The act was repealed because it caused too much of a drop in the government gold supply.
- **American Federation of Labor-** New labor unions formed to protect workers.
- **Interstate Commerce Act-** (1887) This act made railroads charge reasonable rates.
- **Tariff Rates-** Rates remained high in spite of the large treasury surplus.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- The only President to leave the White House and return for a second term four years later.

BENJAMIN HARRISON

1833-1901
23rd President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: "Little Ben"

First Lady: **Caroline Lavinia Scott** (married 1853, died 1892); **Mary Scott Lord Dimmick** (married 1896)

Children: **Russell, Mary, Elizabeth**

Born: **August 20, 1833**, in **North Bend, Ohio**

Died: **March 13, 1901**, in **Indianapolis, Indiana**

Cause of death: **Pneumonia**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Republican**

Vice-President: **Levi P. Morton**

Presidential years: **1889-1893**

Reason for leaving office: **lost reelection bid to Grover Cleveland**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1888- Grover Cleveland**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Pan-American Conference-** This conference increased the U.S. presence in Latin America. Harrison wanted to control the Isthmus of Panama, across which he hoped to build a canal.
- **Dependent and Disability Pensions Act of 1890-** This act gave pensions to all Union veterans who were unable to work for whatever reason.
- **Sherman Silver Purchase Act-** (1890) This act guaranteed that the government would buy 4.5 million ounces of silver each month.
- **McKinley Tariff-** Raised tariffs on foreign goods to make Americans buy U.S. goods.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Harrison was made fun of by some because he was only 5'6" tall.
- He was the first president to use electricity in the White House.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY

1843-1901
25th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: "**Wobbly Willie**"

First Lady: **Ida Saxton (married 1871)**

Children: **Katherine, Ida**

Born: **January 29, 1843**, in **Niles, Ohio**

Died: **September 14, 1901**, in **Buffalo, New York**

Cause of death: **Gunshot wound**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Republican**

Vice-President: **Garret A. Hobart (died in office), Theodore Roosevelt**

Presidential years: **1897-1901**

Reason for leaving office: **assassinated**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1896- William J. Bryan**
- **Election 1900- William J. Bryan**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Dingley Tariff**- This tariff caused the price of consumer goods to go up.
- **Remember the Maine**- (1898) A U.S. Battleship, the Maine, was sunk in the Havana harbor. The Spanish were suspected of causing the blast. This led to increased pressure to go to war with Spain.
- **Spanish-American War**- (1898) This war with Spain freed the Cubans from Spanish control. The U.S. took possession of Puerto Rico, Guam and the Philippines.
- **Hawaii Annexed**- In 1898.
- **Open Door Policy**- This policy allowed equal trade status with China for all nations.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- McKinley's picture is on the \$500 bill.
- He always wore a red carnation for good luck.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

1858-1919
26th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: **"Teddy"**

First Lady: **Alice Hathaway Lee (married 1880, died 1884), Edith Kermit Carow (married 1886)**

Children: **Alice, Theodore Jr., Kermit, Ethel, Archibald, Quentin**

Born: **October 27, 1858, in New York, New York**

Died: **January 6, 1919, in Oyster Bay, New York**

Cause of death: **Coronary embolism**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Republican**

Vice-President: **Charles W. Fairbanks**

Presidential years: **1901-1909**

Reason for leaving office: **lost reelection bid in 1912 to Woodrow Wilson**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1904- Alton B. Parker**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Northern Securities-** Suit filed and won against this railroad trust for violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act.
- **Pennsylvania Coal Strike-** Roosevelt mediated this to help resolve the strike peacefully.
- **Panama Canal-** U.S. bought the canal territory from Panama.
- **Square Deal-** Roosevelt introduced this domestic policy that promised fair rates, better wages and protection from impure food and drugs.
- **Wright Brothers-** (1903) Orville and Wilbur Wright tested their first airplane (powered glider).
- **Industry-** The economy was dominated by industry.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- The original "Teddy Bear" was named after Roosevelt.
- He was the first president to fly an airplane.

WILLIAM H. TAFT
1857-1930
27th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: **"Big Bill"**
First Lady: **Helen Herron (married 1886)**
Children: **Robert, Helen, Charles**
Born: **September 15, 1857, in Cincinnati, Ohio**
Died: **March 8 1930, in Washington, D.C.**
Cause of death: **Heart disease**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Republican**
Vice-President: **James S. Sherman**
Presidential years: **1909-1913**
Reason for leaving office: **lost reelection bid to Woodrow Wilson in 1912**
Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1908- William J. Bryan**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Titanic-** (1912) A British luxury liner hit a North Atlantic iceberg and sank.
- **Sixteenth Amendment-** This amendment made income tax constitutional.
- **Skyscrapers-** New, tall constructions were built in New York and Chicago.
- **Dollar Diplomacy-** Taft's foreign policy used financial means to promote business interest overseas.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Taft was a very large man who had to have an extra-large tub installed in the White House.
- He was the first president to serve on the Supreme Court.

WOODROW WILSON

1856-1924
28th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: "**Professor**"

First Lady: **Ellen Louise Axson** (married 1885, died 1914), **Edith Bolling Galt** (married 1915)

Children: **Margaret, Jessie, Eleanor**

Born: **December 29, 1856**, in **Staunton, Virginia**

Died: **February 3, 1924**, in **Washington, D.C.**

Cause of death: **Weakened from flu, asthma and strokes**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Democrat**

Vice-President: **Thomas R. Marshall**

Presidential years: **1913-1921**

Reason for leaving office: **retired**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1912- Theodore Roosevelt**
- **Election 1916- Charles Evans Hughes**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Underwood Tariff-** (1913) This tariff lowered tariff rates, but added an income tax.
- **Federal Reserve Act-** This act reorganized U.S. banking system.
- **Seventeenth Amendment-** This amendment meant that Senators would be elected by the people, rather than the legislature.
- **Mexican Revolution-** Wilson refused to invade Mexico, retaliating only when cities in New Mexico were attacked.
- **World War I (WWI)-** War broke out in Europe in 1914. U.S. remained neutral until 1917.
- **Fourteen Points-** Points that Wilson thought needed to be implemented in order to bring peace in WWI.
- **Treaty of Versailles-** (1920) This treaty ended WWI.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- During World War I, Wilson kept sheep to mow the White House lawn, so men could be used to help the war effort.

WARREN G. HARDING

1865-1923
29th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: **"Wobbly Warren"**

First Lady: **Florence Kling De Wolfe (married 1891)**

Children: **None**

Born: **November 2, 1865, in Corsica, Ohio**

Died: **August 2, 1923, in San Francisco, California**

Cause of death: **Enlarged heart, pneumonia and a stroke**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Republican**

Vice-President: **Calvin Coolidge**

Presidential years: **1921-1923**

Reason for leaving office: **died in office**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1920- James M. Cox**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **"Return to Normalcy" Campaign-** The platform Harding stood for that rejected Wilson's idealism.
- **Immigration Restriction Act of 1921-** This act limited the number of immigrants allowed per country to three percent of the number of people from that country already in the U.S. in 1910.
- **Limitation of Armament-** This conference resulted in an agreement that the U.S., Great Britain, Japan, France and Italy would limit the size of their navies.
- **Teapot Dome Scandal-** Presidential administration corruption uncovered.
- **Prohibition-** The manufacture and sale of alcohol were made illegal.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Harding's administration is known as one of the most corrupt administrations in U.S. history.

CALVIN COOLIDGE

1872-1933
30th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: "**Silent Cal**"

First Lady: **Grace Anna Goodhue (married 1905)**

Children: **John, Calvin**

Born: **July 4, 1872**, in **Plymouth, Vermont**

Died: **January 5, 1933**, in **Northampton, Massachusetts**

Cause of death: **Coronary thrombosis**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Republican**

Vice-President: **Charles G. Dawes**

Presidential years: **1923-1929**

Reason for leaving office: **retired**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **none- became president when Harding died**
- **Election 1924- John W. Davis**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Teapot Dome Scandal-** Government bribery and corruption from the previous administration had to be addressed by Coolidge.
- **Air Commerce Act-** (1926) This act approved the first two commercial airline routes, one north-south, one east-west, and placed commercial aviation under government regulation.
- **Kellogg-Briand Pact of 1928-** This pact was an ambitious, ultimately ineffective peace-making effort where nations agreed not to use war as a tool of national policy.
- **Charles Lindbergh-** Became the first to fly solo across the Atlantic in 1927.
- **Radio-** (1923) over five hundred stations were now available.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Coolidge was called "Silent Cal" because he was very quiet and didn't talk unless he had to.

HERBERT C. HOOVER

1874-1964

31st President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: "Chief"

First Lady: **Lou Henry (married 1899)**

Children: **Herbert Jr., Allan**

Born: **August 10, 1874**, in **West Branch, Iowa**

Died: **October 20, 1964**, in **New York, New York**

Cause of death: **Internal hemorrhage**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Republican**

Vice-President: **Charles Curtis**

Presidential years: **1929-1933**

Reason for leaving office: **lost reelection bid to Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1932**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1928- Alfred E. Smith**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Stock Market Crash-** (October 29, 1929) Black Tuesday was the day panic set in and the Great Depression began.
- **Hoovervilles-** Small towns formed, comprised of houses made from scrap lumber and cardboard and inhabited by people too poor to live any place else. The people who lived in these towns felt Hoover was not sensitive to their hardships.
- **Reconstruction Finance Corporation-** An agency that loaned billions of dollars to businesses, banks, and state governments to help them get through the Depression. It wasn't effective.
- **Bonus March-** WWI veterans who had been promised bonuses in 1945 marched on Washington to get the payments early (1932) to help them survive the Depression. Hoover refused, and they were driven away with force.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Hoover donated his salary to charity.
- Hoover and his wife spoke in Chinese when they didn't want to be understood.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

1882-1945
32nd President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: "FDR"

First Lady: **Anna Eleanor Roosevelt (married 1905)**

Children: **Anna, James, Franklin, Elliot, Franklin Delano Jr., John**

Born: **January 30, 1882**, in **Hyde Park, New York**

Died: **April 12, 1945**, in **Warm Springs, Georgia**

Cause of death: **Cerebral hemorrhage**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Democrat**

Vice-President: **John Garner, Henry Wallace, Harry S. Truman**

Presidential years: **1933-1945**

Reason for leaving office: **died during the fourth term in office**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1932- Herbert C. Hoover**
- **Election 1936- Alfred M. Landon**
- **Election 1940- Wendell L. Wilkie**
- **Election 1944- Thomas E. Dewey**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Fireside Chats-** Roosevelt held "chats" (radio addresses) to explain his plans.
- **New Deal-** Legislative maneuvers were passed to help the economy get back on the road to recovery by increasing government spending.
- **Federal Emergency Relief Administration-** This agency gave money to those out of work and provided jobs for many.
- **Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933-** Farmers were paid to not plant all of their fields. This raised the price of crops by lowering availability.
- **Social Security Act of 1935-** Social security gave support payments to people who were old, unemployed, sick, or disabled.
- **World War II** began in 1939. The U.S. remained neutral until 1941.
- **Pearl Harbor-** (1941) Was attacked by the Japanese bringing the U.S. into WWII
- **Japanese Internment Camps-**(1942) Japanese and Japanese-Americans were forced into U.S. internment camps.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- First president to be on television.
- Only president to serve more than 2 terms.

HARRY S. TRUMAN

1884-1972
33rd President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: **"Give 'Em Hell Harry"**
First Lady: **Elizabeth Virginia Wallace (married 1919)**
Children: **Margaret**
Born: **May 8, 1884**, in **Lamar, Missouri**
Died: **December 26, 1972**, in **Kansas City, Missouri**
Cause of death: **Complex organ failures**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Democrat**
Vice-President: **Alben W. Barkley**
Presidential years: **1945-1953**
Reason for leaving office: **retired**
Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **none- became president when Roosevelt died**
- **Election 1948- Thomas E. Dewey**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Atomic Bomb(1945)-** BThe dropping of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan signaled the end of the Second World War.
- **Marshall Plan-** This plan was to help rebuild Europe.
- **Berlin Airlift-** (1948) Airlifts of food, coal and necessities sent to West Berlin in response to a Soviet blockade.
- **NATO-** (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) The U.S. and many allies join together.
- **Fair Deal-** A program was created to provide jobs for the millions of returning servicemen.
- **Cold War-** A political struggle began between the U.S. and the Soviet Union (democracy vs. communism)
- **Korean War-** (1950) U.S. sent troops in to help fight the advancement of Communism.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Truman was an expert pianist.
- Truman was the last president not to attend college.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

1890-1969
34th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: "Ike"

First Lady: **Marie (Mamie) Geneva Doud (married 1916)**

Children: **Dwight, John**

Born: **October 14, 1890**, in **Denison, Texas**

Died: **March 28, 1969**, in **Washington, D.C.**

Cause of death: **Coronary thrombosis, several heart attacks**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Republican**

Vice-President: **Richard M. Nixon**

Presidential years: **1953-1961**

Reason for leaving office: **retired**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1952- Adlai E. Stevenson**
- **Election 1956- Adlai E. Stevenson**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Korean War-** The Korean War ended in 1953.
- **Brown vs. Board of Education-** This landmark Supreme Court decision determined that "separate, but equal" was unconstitutional in schools.
- **National Defense Education Act-** This act was passed to develop scientific talent in response to the Soviet launch of Sputnik (1st man-made object to fly into orbit).
- **McCarthyism-** Rumors that Communists were secretly implanted in U.S. Government posts led to the "blacklisting" (and career destruction) of many people.
- **South Vietnam and Communism-** Worries intensified that Communists would take over South Vietnam.
- **Castro and Cuba-** (1959) Castro became the leader in Cuba and formed an alliance with the Soviet Union that worried the U.S.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Eisenhower was the only president to serve in both World Wars.

JOHN F. KENNEDY

1917-1963
35th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: "JFK"

First Lady: **Jacqueline Bouvier (married 1953)**

Children: **Caroline, John Jr., Patrick**

Born: **May 29, 1917**, in **Brookline, Massachusetts**

Died: **November 22, 1963**, in **Dallas, Texas**

Cause of death: **Gunshot wounds**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Democrat**

Vice-President: **Lyndon B. Johnson**

Presidential years: **1961-1963**

Reason for leaving office: **assassinated**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1960- Richard M. Nixon**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Bay of Pigs-** (1961) A botched attempt was made to overthrow Castro in Cuba.
- **Cuban Missile Crisis-** (1962) This Cold War Crisis between the U.S., the Soviet Union, and Cuba was a major confrontation and came close to a nuclear war.
- **Civil Rights Movement-** Struggles continued in the African-American Civil Rights movement.
- **Peace Corps-** (1961) This volunteer-driven federal agency was created to help people in developing countries.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Kennedy was the first Roman Catholic president.
- He was the first president born in the 20th century.
- Kennedy won a Pulitzer Prize for his book *Profiles in Courage*.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

1908-1973
36th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: "LBJ"

First Lady: **Claudia Alta Taylor (Lady Bird) (married 1934)**

Children: **Lynda Bird, Luci**

Born: **August 27, 1908**, in **Stonewall, Texas**

Died: **January 22, 1973**, in **Stonewall, Texas**

Cause of death: **Heart attack**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Democrat**

Vice-President: **Hubert H. Humphrey**

Presidential years: **1963-1969**

Reason for leaving office: **retired**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **none- became president when Kennedy died**
- **Election 1964- Barry M. Goldwater**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Voting Rights Act of 1965-** This act made it easier for blacks to register to vote.
- **Great Society-** Johnson's Domestic Program that developed Medicaid and Medicare to help the poor and elderly pay their medical bills.
- **Rioting-** Race-related riots broke out in parts of the country.
- **Vietnam War-** The U.S. sent combat troops to Vietnam in 1965.
- **Anti-War Demonstrations-** Many Americans joined in the anti-war movement.
- **Martin Luther King-** The charismatic Civil Rights leader was assassinated in 1968.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- The day Johnson was born, his grandfather rode his horse around town proclaiming, "A United States Senator has just been born!"

RICHARD M. NIXON

1913-1994
37th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: **"Tricky Dick"**

First Lady: **Thelma Catherine (Pat) Ryan (married 1940)**

Children: **Patricia, Julie**

Born: **January 9, 1913**, in **Yorba Linda, California**

Died: **April 22, 1994**, in **New York, New York**

Cause of death: **Severe stroke**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Republican**

Vice-President: **Spiro T. Agnew, Gerald R. Ford**

Presidential years: **1969-1974**

Reason for leaving office: **resigned**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1968- Hubert H. Humphrey**
- **Election 1972- George McGovern**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Vietnamization-** Nixon planned to replace U.S. troops with South Vietnamese troops.
- **Man on the Moon-** (1969) Apollo 11 astronaut, Neil Armstrong, became the first man to walk on the moon.
- **Nixon visits China-** (1972) This visit to China was to restore diplomatic relations.
- **Nixon goes to Moscow-** (1972) In Moscow, Nixon signed the SALT treaty, an arms limitation agreement.
- **U.S. leaves Vietnam-** (1973) A formal peace agreement was followed by troop withdrawal.
- **Watergate Break-In-** (1972) A break into Democratic National Committee headquarters plunged Nixon into a political scandal that led to his resignation as president in 1974.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Nixon was the only president to ever resign his office.

GERALD FORD
1913-2006
38th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: “**Jerry**” or “**Mr. Nice Guy**”

First Lady: **Elizabeth Anne (Betty) Bloomer Warren (married 1948)**

Children: **Michael, John, Steven, Susan**

Born: **July 14, 1913, in Omaha, Nebraska**

Died: **December 26, 2006,**

Cause of death: **Cerebrovascular disease**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Republican**

Vice-President: **Nelson A. Rockefeller**

Presidential years: **1974-1977**

Reason for leaving office: **lost election bid to Jimmy Carter**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **none- became president when Nixon resigned**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Pardon of Nixon-** One of the first acts of office for Ford was the pardoning of Nixon for his role in the Watergate scandal. This saved the U.S. from the stress and embarrassment that a trial of this magnitude would cause, but meant that the details of Nixon’s involvement would not be known.
- **Helsinki Accords-** Signing the Helsinki Accords was a move towards détente in the Cold War.
- **Recession-** The U.S. suffered worst inflation and unemployment rates since the Great Depression.
- **Arab Oil Embargo-** Arab nations cut off oil imports to the U.S., causing gasoline prices to rise 70 percent.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Ford was the only president not elected (neither as president nor vice president).
- He was the longest-lived president.

JAMES E. CARTER
1924-
39th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: "**Jimmy**"

First Lady: **Eleanor Rosalynn Smith (married 1946)**

Children: **John, James, Earl III, Jeffery, Amy**

Born: **October 1, 1924**, in **Plains, Georgia**

Died: **Still living**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Democrat**

Vice-President: **Walter F. Mondale**

Presidential years: **1977-1981**

Reason for leaving office: **lost reelection bid to Ronald Reagan in 1980**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1976- Gerald R. Ford**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **New Departments-** Carter created the Department of Energy and the Department of Education.
- **Energy Policy-** In response to dramatic increases in the cost of oil, Carter reduced foreign oil imports by combining new technology, price control, and conservation.
- **Panama Canal-** Carter negotiated a treaty that would turn the canal over to Panama by the end of 1999.
- **Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT)-** Produced a treaty with the Soviets that failed when the Soviets invaded Afghanistan.
- **Camp David Accord-** (1978) A peace proposal signed by Egypt and Israel facilitated by Carter.
- **Hostage Crisis-** (1979) The staff of the U.S. Embassy in Iran was taken hostage.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Carter was a speed-reader. He could read 2,000 words per minute.
- He studied nuclear physics at Annapolis.

RONALD REAGAN

1911-2004
40th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: **"Dutch"**

First Lady: **Jane Wyman (married 1940, divorced 1948), Nancy Davis (married 1952)**

Children: **Maureen, Michael, Patricia, Ronald**

Born: **February 6, 1911, in Tampico, Illinois**

Died: **June 5, 2004**

Cause of death: **Alzheimer's disease; pneumonia**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Republican**

Vice-President: **George Bush**

Presidential years: **1981-1989**

Reason for leaving office: **retired**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1980- Jimmy Carter**
- **Election 1984- Walter F. Mondale**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Reaganomics-** This economic policy was intended to deal with high inflation rate by increasing the money in people's pockets; the belief was that consumer investments and spending would increase.
- **Budget Deficits-** Government had a deficit of over 200 billion dollars.
- **Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces Treaty-** U.S. and the Soviet Union agreed to reduce the number of nuclear warheads at their disposal.
- **Iran-Contra Affair-** Reagan's National Security Council sold arms to Iran at inflated prices and gave the profits to the Contras for more weapons; this led to a scandal for Reagan.
- **Assassination Attempt-** (1981) John Hinckley, Jr. tried to kill Reagan.
- **Challenger Space Shuttle-** The space shuttle exploded in 1986, killing all members of the crew.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Reagan was the oldest person to be elected president (at age 69).

GEORGE H. BUSH
1924-
41st President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: **"Poppy"**

First Lady: **Barbara Pierce (married 1945)**

Children: **George, Robin, John, Neal, Marvin, Dorothy**

Born: **June 12, 1924, in Milton, Massachusetts**

Died: **Still living**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Republican**

Vice-President: **J. Danforth Quayle**

Presidential years: **1989-1993**

Reason for leaving office: **lost reelection bid to Bill Clinton**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1988- Michael S. Dukakis**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Persian Gulf War-** (1990) Iraq invaded Kuwait. Bush sent troops into Kuwait to push the Iraqi troops back. Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm were military offensives that happened during this war.
- **Cold War Ends-** The changes in Soviet government, the destruction of the Berlin Wall, and other events clearly signaled the end of the Cold War.
- **United Nations Earth Summit-** At this U.N. meeting in 1992, 153 nations agreed to reverse negative trends toward the environment.
- **Americans with Disabilities Act-** Bush signed this act in 1990; it is a civil rights law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Bush was distantly related to Presidents Pierce, Lincoln, Teddy Roosevelt, and Ford.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

1946-
42nd President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: "**Bubba**"

First Lady: **Hillary Rodham (married 1975)**

Children: **Chelsea**

Born: **August 19, 1946**, in **Hope, Arkansas**

Died: **Still living**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Democrat**

Vice-President: **Albert Gore, Jr.**

Presidential years: **1993-2001**

Reason for leaving office: **retired**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 1992- George H. Bush**
- **Election 1996- Bob Dole**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

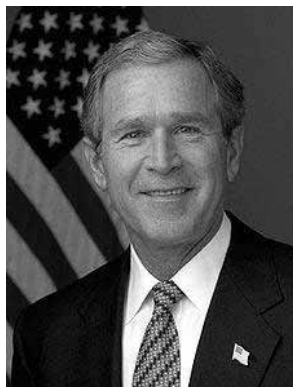
- **North American Free Trade Agreement-** (NAFTA)- Provided a free trade zone between the United States, Mexico and Canada.
- **War in Bosnia-** War between the Serbs, Croats, and Muslims was fought in the former Yugoslavia. Clinton helped negotiate the Dayton Peace Plan.
- **Russian Support-** Substantial economic aid was given to help free-market reforms.
- **Anti-Crime Bill-** (1994) This was a thirty-billion dollar crime bill.
- **Strong economy-** This was the longest period of peace-time economic expansion in American history.
- **Scandals-** Several scandals cast a shadow over President Clinton, his wife, and his administration.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Clinton was inspired to go into politics after meeting President John Fitzgerald Kennedy at the White House in 1963.

GEORGE W. BUSH

1946-
43rd President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: "George W"

First Lady: **Laura Welch (married 1977)**

Children: **Barbara, Jenna**

Born: **July 6, 1946**, in **New Haven, Connecticut**

Died: **Still living**

Cause of death: **Still living**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Republican**

Vice-President: **Richard Cheney**

Presidential years: **2001-2009**

Reason for leaving office: **retired**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 2000- Al Gore, Jr.**
- **Election 2004- John Kerry**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **September 11, 2001**- The worst terrorist attack on U.S. soil happened when the World Trade Center was attacked. Fuel-loaded passenger planes were hijacked and flown into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, killing thousands.
- **War on Terror**- The U.S. initiated political, legal, and military actions in many countries, notably Iraq and Afghanistan, in response to the September 11th attacks.
- **Hurricane Katrina** –One of the worst natural disasters in United States history, costing thousands of lives and billions of dollars.
- **Economy**-Housing market problems, rising oil costs, and massive job losses all indicate an economy in crisis.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- Bush received both the highest and the lowest approval rating of any President.

BARACK OBAMA

1961-

44th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: “**Barry**”

First Lady: **Michelle LaVaughn Robinson (married 1992)**

Children: **Sasha, Malia**

Born: **August 4, 1961**, in **Honolulu, Hawaii**

Died: **Still living**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Democratic**

Vice-President: **Joe Biden**

Presidential years: **2009 - 2017**

Reason for leaving office: **retired**

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 2008 - John McCain**
- **Election 2012 - Mitt Romney**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009** - an economic stimulus package to aid in recovery from recession.
- **Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act** - signed in 2010 to provide national health care reform.
- **Budget Control Act of 2011** - legislation to enforce discretionary spending limits, establish a procedure for increasing debt limit, and work towards deficit reduction.
- **Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill** - on April 20, 2010, an explosion on an offshore oil rig caused a major oil spill.
- **Foreign Policy** - sought to renew and reestablish foreign relationships.
- **Iraq War ended** - officially declared on December 15, 2011.
- **War in Afghanistan** - called for strengthening of U.S. troops.
- **Death of Osama bin Laden** - authorized a raid that resulted in the death of the terrorist leader who claimed responsibility for the September 11 attacks.
- **Restored U.S. relations with Cuba** - an almost sixty year détente between the two nations was ended.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- **First African-American president.**
- **Has read all the Harry Potter books and collects comic books.**

Donald J. Trump
1946-
45th President



LIFE FACTS:

Nickname: **"The Donald"**

First Lady: **Melania Knauss (married 2005)**

Children: **Donald Jr., Ivanka, Eric, Tiffany, Barron**

Born: **June 14, 1946**, in **New York City, New York**

Died: **Still living**

PRESIDENTIAL FACTS:

Political Party: **Republican**

Vice-President: **Mike Pence**

Presidential years: **2017 - present**

Reason for leaving office:

Main candidate defeated for Presidency:

- **Election 2016 - Hillary Clinton**

DURING HIS PRESIDENCY:

- **Signed executive orders during his first week in office**
 - to minimize the economic burden of the Affordable Care Act.
 - to withdraw the U.S. from the Trans-Pacific Partnership, a free trade agreement.
 - to reinstate the Mexico City policy regarding funding for foreign health policies.
 - to reopen Keystone XL and Dakota Access pipeline construction.

INTERESTING FACTS:

- **First president having held no previous political offices.**
- **Oldest president at time of inauguration**
- **Background in business and entertainment**
- **Billionaire**