



My Drift

Title: Most Famous Women in History

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Who are the top 100 most famous women in history?

I researched more than 300 women who I found on various Internet lists and I added several that I thought belonged on the list. Unfortunately, I might have missed a few famous women and probably got a few in the wrong order, but I think I got most of them. Here's my list. We will start at 100 and countdown to number 1.

100 Vanna White (born in 1957) is a television personality and film actress known as the hostess of Wheel of Fortune since 1982. Before her appearance on TV, White was a contestant in the Miss Georgia 1978 pageant. White's first appearance in a game show was in 1980, episode of The Price Is Right. In 1987, she was featured in a Playboy pictorial.



99 Faye Dunaway (born in 1941) has won an Academy Award, three Golden Globes, and an Emmy. Her career began in the early 1960s on Broadway. She made her screen debut in the 1967 film The Happening and rose to fame with her portrayal of outlaw Bonnie Parker in Arthur Penn's Bonnie and Clyde. She won an Academy Award for Best Actress for the movie Network in 1976.

98 Artemisia I of Caria (480 BC) was a Greek queen of the ancient Achaemenid satrapy of Caria. She fought as an ally of Xerxes I, King of Persia, against the independent Greek city/states during the second Persian invasion of Greece. She commanded five ships at the naval battle of Artemisium and in the naval Battle of Salamis.



97 Martha Graham (1894–1991) was an American modern dancer and choreographer. Her style, the Graham technique, reshaped American dance and is still taught worldwide. She danced and choreographed for over seventy years and was the first dancer to perform at the White House.



96 Rachel Carson (1907-1964) was an American marine biologist, author, and conservationist whose book *Silent Spring* and other writings are credited with advancing the global environmental movement.

95 Angela Isadora Duncan (1877-1927) was an American dancer who performed to acclaim throughout Europe. Born in California, she lived in Western Europe and the Soviet Union from the age of 22 until her death at age 50, when her scarf became entangled in the wheels and axle of the car in which she was riding.



94 Angela Davis (born 1944) is an American political activist, academic, and author. She emerged as a prominent counterculture activist in the 1960s working with the Communist Party USA, of which she was a member until 1991, and was involved very briefly in the Black Panther Party during the Civil Rights Movement.

93 Golda Meir (1898 – 1978) a labor activist, Zionist, and politician, was the fourth prime minister of the state of Israel and second woman prime minister in the world. The Yom Kippur War, between Arabs and Israelis, was fought during her term as prime minister.



92 Elizabeth Blackwell (1821 – 1910) was a British physician and the first woman to receive a medical degree in the U.S. She was a pioneer in the education of women in medicine in the U.S. and a social and moral reformer in both the U.S. and the United Kingdom. Due to her contribution to the world of medicine, she now has a national holiday dedicated to her on February 3rd to celebrate her innovative work in medicine called National Women Physicians Day.

91 Jane Goodall (Born in 1934) is an English primatologist and anthropologist. Considered to be the world's foremost expert on chimpanzees, Goodall is best known for her over 55-year study of social and family interactions of wild chimpanzees since she first went to Gombe Stream National Park, Tanzania in 1960.



90 Chris Evert (born in 1954) is an American tennis player who won 18 grand slam single titles, and 3 doubles titles. She had a win percentage in singles matches of 89.9% – the highest in the open era.

89 Caroline Kennedy (born in 1957) is a proponent of her own privacy and that of her family. Caroline Kennedy (Schlossberg) is a lawyer and writer who has been in the public eye since her father, John F. Kennedy, took office as President in 1961. Her books include a 1995 book on privacy.



88 Adele (born in 1988) is an English singer and songwriter. One of the world's best-selling artists with numerous Grammy and Academy Awards.

87 Maria Sharapova (born in 1987) is a Russian tennis player. She has won all four major Grand Slam tournaments and Olympic silver in 2012. She also has a high profile outside the game, with her own business and modelling ventures.



86 Nadia Comaneci (born in 1961) is a Romanian gymnast who won three Olympic gold medals at the 1976 Olympics and was the first gymnast to gain a perfect score of 6.0.

85 Malala Yousafzai (born in 1997) is a Pakistani school girl who has campaigned for the right to education for girls. She was shot in the head by a Taliban gunman in an assassination attempt in retaliation for her activism - but she survived.



84 Gisele Bündchen (born in 1980) is a Brazilian model and actress. Since 2004, Bündchen has been among the highest-paid models in the world. In 2012, she placed first on the Forbes top-earning models list. Bündchen married New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady in 2009.



83 Serena Williams (born in 1981) is an American tennis player. Williams holds the most 'Grand Slam' titles in singles, doubles, and mixed doubles combined among active players. Her 39 major titles puts her joint-third on the all-time list and second in the Open Era: 23 in singles, 14 in women's doubles, and two in mixed doubles.

82 Catherine de Medici (1519–1589) was an influential French Queen who shaped European politics.



81 Whoopi Goldberg (born in 1955 Caryn Elaine Johnson) is an actress, comedian, author, and television host. She has been nominated for 13 Emmy Awards and is one of the few entertainers to have won an Emmy Award, a Grammy Award, an Academy Award, and a Tony Award.

80 Lena Horne (1917-2010) Lena Mary Calhoun Horne was an African American singer, dancer, actress, and civil rights activist. Horne's career spanned over 70 years appearing in film, television, and theater.



79 Julie Andrews (born in 1935) is an English actress, singer, and author. Andrews, a child actress and singer, appeared in the West End in 1948 and rose to prominence starring in Broadway musicals such as *My Fair Lady* in 1956. Andrews made her feature film debut in *Mary Poppins* (1964) and won the Academy Award for Best Actress.



78 Martina Navratilova (born in 1956) is a Czechoslovakian tennis player. She was the dominant female tennis player of the 1980s. She won 18 grand slam titles and 31 major doubles titles.

77 Shakira (born in 1977) is a Colombian singer, model, record producer and dancer.



76 Anna Pavlova (1881–1931) was a Russian ballet dancer who set up her own touring ballet company. The dance *The Dying Swan* was created especially for her.

75 Erma Bombeck (1927-1996) was an American humorist who achieved great popularity for her newspaper column that described suburban home life from the mid-1960s until the late 1990s. Bombeck also published 15 books and most of them became bestsellers.



74 Calamity Jane (1852-1903) was one of the best-known women of the American "Wild West" renowned for her sharp-shooting, whiskey swilling, and cross-dressing ways – but also for her kindness towards others.

73 Hypatia (360 – 415 AD) was a Hellenistic Neoplatonist philosopher, astronomer, and mathematician, who lived in Alexandria, Egypt, then part of the Eastern Roman Empire. She was a prominent thinker of the Neoplatonic school in Alexandria where she taught philosophy and astronomy. She is the first female mathematician whose life is reasonably well recorded.



72 Margaret Thatcher (1925 – 2013) was the first woman prime minister in Europe. She's also, to this date, the longest-serving British prime minister since 1894. Famous (or infamous), she was dubbed as the Iron Lady because of her uncompromising politics and leadership style.

71 Sally Ride (1951-2012) became the first American woman to go into space when she flew on the space shuttle *Challenger* on June 18, 1983. She made two shuttle flights, and later became a champion for science education and a role model for generations.



70 Maya Angelou (born Marguerite Annie Johnson 1928 – 2014) was an American poet, singer, memoirist, and civil rights activist. She published seven autobiographies, three books of essays, several books of poetry, and was credited with a list of plays, movies, and television shows spanning over 50 years.

69 Jennifer Lopez (born in 1969) is an American singer, actress, dancer, and producer. Lopez began her acting career in 1993 and had her first leading role in the 1997 Selena biopic of the same name. Lopez received a Golden Globe nomination and became the first Latin actress to earn over US\$1 million for a film.



68 Lara Logan (born in 1971) is a South African television and radio journalist and war correspondent. She is the chief foreign affairs correspondent for CBS News and a correspondent for CBS's 60 Minutes.

67 Salome (14-62 AD) was the daughter of Herodias and according to the New Testament, demanded and received the head of John the Baptist for her birthday. Salome has become a symbol of dangerous female seductiveness.



66 Indira Gandhi (1917 – 1984) was the prime minister of India and a member of a prominent Indian political family. Her father, Jawaharlal Nehru, and two of her sons were also Indian prime ministers. Her life ended in assassination.

65 Eva Peron (1919–1952) was the wife of Argentine President Juan Perón and was the First Lady of Argentina from 1946 until her death in 1952 at age 32. She was a humanitarian and political activist who campaigned on behalf of the poor and less privileged.



64 Lauren Bacall (1924–2014) was an American actress known for her distinctive voice and sultry looks. She was named the 20th greatest female star of classic Hollywood cinema by the American Film Institute and received an Academy Honorary Award from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in 2009.

63 Amelia Earhart (1897–1937) was an American aviation pioneer and author. She was the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean.



62 Katharine Hepburn (1907–2003) was an American actress known for her fierce independence and spirited personality. Hepburn was a leading lady in Hollywood for more than 60 years. She received four Academy Awards—a record for any performer—for Best Actress.

61 Rosa Parks (1913–2005) - On Dec 1, 1955, in Montgomery, Alabama, Parks refused to obey the bus driver's order to give up her seat in the "colored section" to a white passenger, after the whites-only section was filled up. The US Congress has called her "the first lady of civil rights".



60 Billie Holiday (1915–1959) was given the title "First Lady of the Blues". Holiday was widely considered to be the greatest and most expressive jazz singer of all time.

59 Yoko Ono (born in 1933) is a Japanese-American artist and musician. She was married to John Lennon, one of the Beatles.



58 Marlene Dietrich (1901–1992) was a German-American actress. Dietrich's career spanned several decades from silent movies to becoming one of Hollywood's biggest stars.

57 Lady Godiva (990 - 1067) was an English noblewoman who, according to a legend dating back to at least to the 13th century, rode naked – covered only in her long hair – through the streets of Coventry to gain a remission of the oppressive taxation that her husband imposed on his tenants.



56 Mary Queen of Scots was the Queen of France (as a consort) and Queen of Scotland (in her own right); her marriages caused scandal, and her Catholic religion and kinship with England's Queen Elizabeth I caused enough suspicion of her motives that Elizabeth had her executed.

55 Queen Liliuokalani (1838 – 1917) was the first and only reigning Hawaiian queen and the last Hawaiian sovereign to govern the islands, which were annexed by the United States in 1893.



54 Jackie Joyner-Kersey (born in 1962) is a retired track and field athlete, ranked among the all-time greatest athletes in the heptathlon as well as long jump. She won three gold, one silver, and two bronze Olympic medals, in those two events at four different Olympic Games. Sports Illustrated voted Joyner-Kersey the Greatest Female Athlete of All-Time.

53 Babe Didrikson Zaharias (1911 – 1956) was an American athlete who excelled in golf, basketball, baseball and track and field. She won two gold medals in track and field at the 1932 Summer Olympics, before turning to professional golf and winning 10 LPGA major championships.



52 Mia Hamm (born in 1972) is a retired professional soccer player, two-time Olympic gold medalist, and two-time FIFA Women's World Cup champion. Hailed as a soccer icon, she played as a forward for the United States women's national soccer team from 1987–2004.

51 Lisa Leslie (born in 1972) was a basketball player who played in the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA). She is a three-time WNBA MVP and a four-time Olympic gold medal winner. She received eight WNBA All-Star selections and two WNBA championships over the course of eleven seasons with the Los Angeles Sparks





50 Lindsey Vonn (born in 1984) is a World Cup alpine ski racer on the US Ski Team. She has won four World Cup overall championships—plus another in 2012. Vonn won the gold medal in downhill at the 2010 Winter Olympics, the first ever in the event for an American woman. She has the second highest super ranking of all skiers, men, or women.

49 Danica Patrick (born in 1982) is a former professional race driver. She is the most successful woman in the history of American open-wheel racing—her victory in the 2008 Indy Japan 300 is the only win by a woman in an IndyCar Series race.



48 Jennifer Aniston (born in 1969) is an actress, film producer, and business person. Aniston gained worldwide recognition for portraying Rachel Green on the television sitcom Friends (1994–2004), a role which earned her a Primetime Emmy Award, a Golden Globe Award, and a Screen Actors Guild Award.

47 Sharon Stone (born in 1958) is an actress, producer, and fashion model. After modelling in television commercials, Stone went on to become a sex symbol when she starred as Catherine Tramell in the erotic thriller Basic Instinct (1992) for which she earned her first Golden Globe Award. Other notable films include The Specialist (1994) and The Quick and the Dead (1995).



46 Michelle Obama (born in 1964) is a lawyer and writer who served as the First Lady of the US from 2009 to 2017. She is married to the 44th President of the US, Barack Obama, and is the first African-American First Lady. Raised on the South Side of Chicago, Obama is a graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Law School.

45 Mary Magdalene (4 BCE–40 CE) was a devotee of Jesus Christ. She was present at Christ's crucifixion and the first person to see Jesus after his resurrection.



44 Julia Child (1912 – 2004) was an American chef, author, and television personality. She is recognized for bringing French cuisine to the American public with her debut cookbook, Mastering the Art of French Cooking, and her subsequent television programs, the most notable of which was The French Chef, which premiered in 1963.

43 Barbara Walters (born in 1929) is an American broadcast journalist, author, and television personality. Walters is known for having hosted a variety of television programs, including Today, The View, 20/20, and the ABC Evening News.



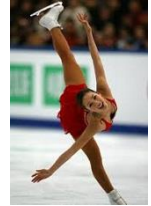
42 Emily Post (1872 – 1960) was an American author famous for writing about etiquette.

41 Brigitte Bardot (born in 1934) is a French actress, singer, dancer, and fashion model, who later became an animal rights activist. She was one of the best known sex symbols of the 1950s and 1960s and was widely referred to by her initials, B.B.



40 Pocahontas (1596 – 1617) was an Indian woman notable for her association with the colonial settlement at Jamestown, VA. Pocahontas was the daughter of Powhatan, the paramount chief of the tribal nations in the Tsenacommacah, encompassing the Tidewater region of Virginia.

39 Michelle Kwan (born July 7, 1980) is a retired US figure skater. She is a two-time Olympic medalist (1998 and 2002), a five-time World champion (1996, 1998, 2000, 2001, and 2003) and a nine-time U.S. champion (1996, 1998-2005). For well over a decade, Kwan maintained her status not only as America's most popular figure skater but as one of America's most popular female athletes.



38 Jane Fonda (born December 21, 1937) is an American actress, writer, political activist, former fashion model and fitness guru. She is a two-time Academy Award winner (Kluge (1971) and Coming Home (1978)) and four-time Golden Globe Award winner. Fonda was a visible political activist during the Vietnam War.

37 Betsy Ross (1752 –1836) is widely credited with making the first American flag. According to historians, she did this after a visit from General George Washington, commander-in-chief of the Continental Army, in 1776.



36 Lizzie Borden (1860 – 1927) was the woman who is best known for being the main suspect in the 1892 axe murders of her father and stepmother in Fall River, Massachusetts. Borden was tried and acquitted of the murders.

35 Helen Keller (1880 – 1968) was an author, political activist, and lecturer. She was the first deaf-blind person to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree. The film The Miracle Worker made widely known the story of how Keller's teacher, Anne Sullivan, broke through the isolation imposed by a near complete lack of language, allowing the girl to blossom as she learned to communicate.



34 Shirley Temple Black (1928 –2014) was an actress, singer, dancer, and diplomat who was Hollywood's number one box-office draw as a child actress from 1935 to 1938. As an adult, she was named United States ambassador to Ghana and to Czechoslovakia.

33 Lucille Ball (1911 – 1989) was an actress, comedian, film-studio executive, and producer. She was the star of the sitcoms I Love Lucy, The Lucy–Desi Comedy Hour, The Lucy Show, Here's Lucy, and Life with Lucy. In 1962, Ball became the first woman to run a major television studio, Desilu Productions, which produced many popular television series, including Mission: Impossible and Star Trek.



32 Bette Davis (1908 – 1989) was an actress of film, television, and theater. Regarded as one of the greatest actresses in Hollywood history, she was noted for her willingness to play unsympathetic, sardonic characters, and was famous for her performances in a range of film genres, from crime melodramas to historical and suspense horror, and occasional comedies.

31 Clara Barton (1821 – 1912) was a pioneering nurse who founded the American Red Cross. She was a hospital nurse in the American Civil War, a teacher, and patent clerk.



30 Marie Antoinette (1755 – 1793) was the last Queen of France before the French Revolution. She was born an Archduchess of Austria and was the penultimate child and youngest daughter of Empress Maria Theresa and Francis I, Holy Roman Emperor.

29 Marie Curie (1867 – 1934) was a Polish and naturalized-French physicist and chemist who conducted pioneering research on radioactivity. She was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize, the first person and only woman to win twice, and the only person to win a Nobel Prize in two different sciences.



28 Emily Dickinson (1830 – 1886) Dickinson lived much of her life in reclusive isolation. Dickinson never married and most friendships between her and others depended on correspondence. While Dickinson was a prolific private poet, fewer than a dozen of her nearly 1,800 poems were published during her lifetime.

27 Susan B. Anthony (1820 – 1906) was a social reformer and women's rights activist who played a pivotal role in the women's suffrage movement. Born into a Quaker family committed to social equality, she collected anti-slavery petitions at the age of 17. In 1856, she became the New York state agent for the American Anti-Slavery Society.



26 Florence Nightingale (1820 – 1910) was an English social reformer, statistician, and the founder of modern nursing.

25 Agatha Christie (1890 – 1976) was an English writer known for her 66 detective novels and 14 short story collections. Christie also wrote the world's longest-running play, a murder mystery, The Mousetrap. Guinness World Records lists Christie as the best-selling novelist of all time. Her novels have sold roughly 2 billion copies.



24 Mae West (1893 – 1980) was an actress, singer, playwright, screenwriter, comedian, and sex symbol whose entertainment career spanned seven decades. She was known for her lighthearted bawdy risqué and breezy sexual independence. West was active in vaudeville and on the stage in NY City before moving to Hollywood.

23 Ellen DeGeneres (born January 26, 1958) is a comedian, television host, actress, writer, producer, and LGBT activist. DeGeneres starred in the popular sitcom Ellen from 1994 to 1998 and has hosted her syndicated TV talk show, The Ellen DeGeneres Show, since 2003. Her stand-up career started in the early 1980s and included a 1986 appearance on The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson.





22 Angelina Jolie (born June 4, 1975) is an actress, filmmaker, and humanitarian. She has received an Academy Award, two Screen Actors Guild Awards, and three Golden Globe Awards. Jolie made her screen debut as a child alongside her father, Jon Voight, in *Lookin' to Get Out* (1982). Jolie's starring role as the heroine Lara Croft in *Lara Croft: Tomb Raider* (2001) established her as a leading Hollywood actress.

21 Catherine the Great (1729 – 1796) was Empress of Russia from 1762 until 1796, the country's longest-ruling female leader. She came to power following a coup d'état when her husband, Peter III, was overthrown. Under her reign, Russia grew larger and stronger, and was recognized as one of the great powers of Europe.



20 Elizabeth II (born 21 April 1926) is Queen of the United Kingdom and the other Commonwealth realms.

19 J.K. Rowling (born in 1965) is a British novelist, philanthropist, film and television producer and screenwriter best known for writing the Harry Potter fantasy series. The books have won multiple awards, and sold more than 500 million copies, becoming the best-selling book series in history. They have also been the basis for a film series, over which Rowling had overall approval on the scripts.



18 Mata Hari (real name was Margaretha Geertruida 1876 – 1917) was a Dutch exotic dancer and courtesan who was convicted of being a spy for Germany during World War I and executed by firing squad in France.

17 Catherine Middleton, Duchess of Cambridge (born on 9 January 1982) is a member of the British royal family. Her husband, Prince William, Duke of Cambridge, is expected to become king of the United Kingdom and of 15 other Commonwealth realms, making Catherine a likely future queen consort.



16 Beyoncé Giselle Knowles-Carter (born September 4, 1981) is an American singer, songwriter, dancer, actress, and businesswoman. Born and raised in Houston, Texas, Beyoncé performed in various singing and dancing competitions as a child. She rose to fame in the late 1990s as lead singer of the R&B girl-group Destiny's Child. The group became one of the world's best-selling girl groups in history.

15 Elizabeth Taylor (1932-2011) was a British-born American actress, businesswoman, and humanitarian. Taylor's breakthrough role came in *National Velvet* (1944) where she became the studio's most popular teenage star. Taylor was paid a record-breaking \$1 million to play the title role in the historical epic *Cleopatra* (1963), the most expensive film made up to that point.



14 Hilary Clinton (born October 26, 1947) is an American politician and diplomat who served as the First Lady of the United States from 1993 to 2001, U.S. Senator from New York from 2001 to 2009, 67th United States Secretary of State from 2009 to 2013, and the Democratic Party's nominee for President of the United States in the 2016 election.

13 Billie Jean King (born November 22, 1943) is a former World No. 1 professional tennis player. King won 39 Grand Slam titles: 12 in singles, 16 in women's doubles, and 11 in mixed doubles. King is an advocate for gender equality and has long been a pioneer for social justice. At age 29, she won the "Battle of the Sexes" tennis match against the 55-year-old Bobby Riggs.



12 Audrey Hepburn (1929 – 1993) was a British actress, model, dancer and humanitarian. Recognized as a film and fashion icon, Hepburn was active during Hollywood's Golden Age. She was ranked by the American Film Institute as the third-greatest female screen legend in Golden Age Hollywood.

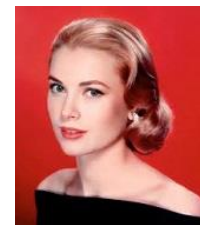
11 Anne Frank (1929 – 1945) was a German-born diarist. One of the most discussed Jewish victims of the Holocaust, she gained fame posthumously with the publication of *The Diary of a Young Girl* in which she documents her life in hiding from 1942 to 1944, during the German occupation of the Netherlands in World War II. It is one of the world's most widely known books and has been the basis for several plays and films.



10 Eleanor Roosevelt (1884 – 1962) was a political figure, diplomat and activist. She served as the First Lady of the US from 1933 to 1945 during her husband President Franklin D. Roosevelt's four terms in office, making her the longest serving First Lady. Roosevelt served as US Delegate to the United Nations General Assembly from 1945 to 1952.



9 Grace Kelly (1929 – 1982) was an American film actress, who became Princess of Monaco after marrying Prince Rainier III in 1956. Her acting career started in 1950 and she gained stardom from her performance in director John Ford's film *Mogambo* starring Clark Gable and Ava Gardner. Princess Grace suffered a stroke while driving home in 1982 resulting in a road accident and her death.



8 Mother Teresa as Saint Teresa of Calcutta (1910 – 1997) was an Albanian-Indian Roman Catholic nun and missionary. She was born in Skopje (now the capital of Macedonia) and lived there for eighteen years before moving to Ireland and then to India, where she lived for most of her life. In 1950 Teresa founded the Missionaries of Charity, a Roman Catholic religious congregation which has over 4,500 sisters.



7 Joan of Arc (1412 – 1431), nicknamed "The Maid of Orléans", is considered a heroine of France for her role during the Lancastrian phase of the Hundred Years War and was canonized as a Roman Catholic saint.



6 Cleopatra VII Philopator (69 – 30 BC) was the last active ruler of the Ptolemaic Kingdom of Egypt, nominally survived as pharaoh by her son Caesarion. She was also a diplomat, naval commander, polyglot, and medical author.



5 Oprah Winfrey (born in 1954) is a media proprietor, talk show host, actress, producer, and philanthropist. She is best known for her talk show 'The Oprah Winfrey Show', which was the highest-rated television program of its kind in history. Dubbed the "Queen of All Media", she was the richest African American of the 20th century and North America's first multi-billionaire black person.



4 Madonna Louise Ciccone (was born in 1958) is an American singer, songwriter, actress, and businesswoman. Referred to as the "Queen of Pop" since the 1980s, Madonna is known for pushing the boundaries of lyrical content in mainstream popular music, as well as visual imagery in music videos and on stage. She has also frequently reinvented both her music and image while maintaining autonomy within the recording industry. Besides sparking some controversy, her work has been praised by most music critics.



3 Diana, Princess of Wales (born Diana Frances Spencer on 1 Jul 1961 – died on 31 Aug 1997) was a member of the British royal family. She was the first wife of Charles, Prince of Wales, the heir apparent to the British throne, and the mother of Prince William, Duke of Cambridge, and Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex. Diana remained the object of worldwide media scrutiny during and after her marriage, which ended in divorce in August 1996 following well-publicized extramarital affairs by both parties. Media attention and public mourning were extensive after her death in a car crash in a Paris tunnel in 1997 and subsequent televised funeral.



2 Jacqueline (Jackie) Kennedy (born on July 28, 1929 – died May 19, 1994) was the wife of the 35th President of the United States, John F. Kennedy, and the First Lady of the United States from 1961 until his assassination in 1963. After his funeral, she and her children withdrew from public view for a few years. Later, she married Aristotle Onassis, one of the world's richest men, in 1968. Following her second husband's death in 1975, she had a career as a book editor for the final two decades of her life.



1 Marilyn Monroe (born Norma Jeane Mortenson on June 1, 1926 – died August 5, 1962) was an American actress, model, and singer. Famous for playing comic "blonde bombshell" characters,

she became one of the most popular sex symbols of the 1950s and was emblematic of the era's attitudes towards sexuality. Although she was a top-billed actress for only a decade, her films grossed \$200 million by the time of her unexpected death in 1962. More than half a century later, she continues to be a major popular culture icon.

Are the results what you expected? Probably not but I bet there are a lot of surprises here. Why did I pick Marilyn Monroe #1? Well, during my high school and college years, Marilyn Monroe was probably the most famous woman in the world. At least I thought she was. Besides that, in the header picture at the beginning of this article, she is front and center right in the middle. Somebody else must have liked her too.

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