

Stephen Hawking

Stephen William Hawking was born in 1942 to Frank and Isobel Hawking on the 300th anniversary of the death of the famous scientist Galileo. As a child he was very fascinated in the sky, science and maths but did not stand out in school. He was below average in the teacher's eyes and scored bottom of the class in tests. Though his friends could see how intelligent he really was due to the fact he built a computer that could do simple maths with things like old clock, so they nicknamed him Einstein. When it came time to go to University, he easily raised his grades and went to Oxford.

When Stephen found out he was going to Oxford he applied for a mathematics course but was turned down for that particular subject, instead he studied physics and chemistry. There he met his future wife Jane Jones. He joined the boat rally team and made many friends. It was then he discovered that he was starting to be unusually clumsy but put off seeing a doctor. After spending 3 years in Oxford he decided to move to Cambridge and study Mathematics and physics, there he had an amazing and encouraging maths professor

that really guided him in the right direction. Hawking finally decided to see a doctor about his increasing clumsiness and figured out he had ALS, a disease that kills the brain cells that control the muscles, he was also told he had at the most 2 years to live. From being told this he also suffered depression.

In 1965 he married Jane and in 1966 he graduated from Cambridge. They had Robert their first child in 1967, Lucy the middle child in 1969 and Timothy born in 1979. At this time, he became a professor of mathematics in Cambridge University.

In 1985 he was rushed into hospital in Geneva due to pneumonia, the operation was a success though he lost his speech entirely. But a Californian engineer build him a system where he can talk using buttons like a remote to communicate. Further in his life this changed to a sensor attached to his glasses where he moved a muscle in his cheek which at the end of his life was the only muscle he could move.

In 1988 he published his first book called 'A Brief History in Time' as his goal all along was to educate the public. The book was a bestseller for 237 weeks in the London's

bestseller list. It was one of the most iconic books in the 20th century.

In 1989 Stephen got the opportunity to meet Queen Elizabeth and in 1995 he married his 2nd wife Elaine Mason (his nurse!) The police started getting suspicious that Hawking was being physically abused by his new wife but he always denied it. However, in 2007 they divorced.

In 2015 the movie 'The Theory of Everything' was made starring Eddy Redmayne which further boosted the world knowledge of Stephen's life.

In 2018 Stephen Hawking died at 76 surpassing the doctor's life expectancy by a landslide! Stephen Hawking was one of the best science minds of all time, had an amazing sense of humour and should never be forgotten.

*'Look up at stars and not down at your feet.
Try to make sense of what you see, and
wonder about what makes the universe exist.
Be curious.'*

-Stephen Hawking 1942-2018

