



Ann Richards Betty Friedan Ed Bradley Red Auerbach Coretta Scott King William Styron Jack Palance Robert Altman Gen. Augusto Pinochet Mickey Spillane Caspar Weinberger Steve Irwin

A list of notable deaths in 2006

By POLLY ANDERSON
The Associated Press

With "The Feminine Mystique," Betty Friedan gave rise to the modern women's movement, striking a chord that continues to ring four decades later.

Friedan and Coretta Scott King gained fame as crusaders for human rights. Shelley Winters and Wendy Wasserstein made their mark in the performing arts, while Jeane Kirkpatrick and Ann Richards served in government.

These women were six of the remarkable people whose deaths touched us in 2006.

At one time, they might have been admiringly — or patronizingly — described as tough cookies.

They were also known, to a few individuals, as Mom — they had 16 children between them.

The leaders, visionaries and heroes who left us in 2006 also include director Robert Altman, whose works included such masterpieces as "Nashville" and "The Player."

The world of sports lost four legends within weeks this fall: golfer Byron Nelson, baseball great Buck O'Neil, Boston Celtics' coach Red Auerbach and Michigan football coach Bo Schembechler.

Australian adventurer Steve Irwin captivated fans worldwide with his show "The Crocodile Hunter." Ed Bradley's interviews informed and inspired "60 Minutes" viewers for a quar-

ter-century. Aaron Spelling excelled at packaging stylish TV shows such as "Charlie's Angels."

Here, a roll call of some of the notables who died in 2006.

January

Lou Rawls, 72. Velvet-voiced singer of such hits as "Love Is a Hurtin' Thing." Jan. 6.
Shelley Winters, 85. Outspoken, Oscar-winning star who graduated from bombshell parts to dramas ("The Diary of Anne Frank.") Jan. 14.
William "Bud" Post III, 66. His \$16.2 million lottery jackpot led to squabbles, business failures. Jan. 15.
Wilson Pickett, 64. Fiery soul music pioneer ("Mustang Sally.") Jan. 19.
Coretta Scott King, 78. Civil rights leader; carried on work of her martyred husband. Jan. 30.

February

Al Lewis, 82. Grandpa on "The Munsters." Feb. 3.
Betty Friedan, 85. Her "The Feminine Mystique" helped shatter the cozy suburban ideal in postwar America. Feb. 4.
Sir Freddie Laker, 83. British entrepreneur who changed air travel with his low-cost Skytrain service. Feb. 9.
Peter Benchley, 65. Author of "Jaws," novel made into blockbuster movie. Feb. 11.
Curt Gowdy, 86. Sports caster; called 13 World Series and 16 All-Star games, first Super Bowl. Feb. 20.
Dennis Weaver, 81. Chester on

"Gunsmoke"; the cop hero in "McCloud." Feb. 24.

Don Knotts, 81. Won five Emmys for playing bumbling Deputy Barney Fife on "The Andy Griffith Show." Feb. 24.

March

Dana Reeve, 44. Actress-singer, devoted herself to husband Christopher Reeve after he was paralyzed. March 6. Lung cancer.
Kirby Puckett, 45. Baseball Hall of Famer; carried Minnesota Twins to two World Series titles. March 6. Stroke.
Slobodan Milosevic, 64. Former Yugoslav leader; accused of orchestrating conflict that killed 250,000 people. March 11.
Maureen Stapleton, 80. Oscar-winning actress who excelled on stage, screen, and television. March 13.
Buck Owens, 76. Flashy rhinestone cowboy who shaped country music ("Act Naturally.") March 25.

Caspar Weinberger, 88. Consummate Cold Warrior; Reagan's defense secretary. March 28.

April

June Pointer, 52. Youngest of hitmaking Pointer Sisters ("I'm So Excited.") April 11. Cancer.
Scott Crossfield, 84. First to fly at twice the speed of sound. April 19. Plane crash.
John Kenneth Galbraith, 97. Economist whose influence stretched from White House to Main Street. April 29.

May

Louis Rukeyser, 73. Public TV

host known for common-sense commentary on business. May 2.

Lillian Asplund, 99. Last Titanic survivor with memories of sinking. May 6.

Floyd Patterson, 71. Boxing great; regained heavyweight title in 1960 in rematch. May 11.

Lloyd Bentsen, 85. Former Treasury secretary, Texas senator. May 23.

June

Billy Preston, 59. Singer-keyboardist ("Nothing From Nothing"); played with the Beatles. June 6. Heart infection; kidney failure.
Kenneth Thomson, 82. Canada's richest person. June 12.
Charles Haughey, 80. Irish prime minister; career haunted by ethical questions. June 13.
Aaron Spelling, 83. TV impresario whose shows ("Beverly Hills 90210") were wildly popular. June 23.
Patsy Ramsey, 49. Was thrust into spotlight by unsolved slaying of her daughter Jon-Benet. June 24. Cancer.

July

Kenneth Lay, 64. Enron founder who tumbled into disgrace. July 5.
June Allyson, 88. Hollywood movies' "perfect wife." July 8.
Red Buttons, 87. Actor-comedian; won Oscar with a dramatic turn in "Sayonara." July 13.
Robert Brooks, 69. Chairman of Hooters of America, restaurants famed for scantily clad waitresses. July 16.
Mickey Spillane, 88. Macho

mystery writer who wowed millions of readers. July 17.

August

Elisabeth Schwarzkopf, 90. Soprano who won global acclaim. Aug. 3.
Mike Douglas, 81. Affable TV talk show host and singer. Aug. 11.
Joe Rosenthal, 94. Associated Press photojournalist who took picture of flag-raising on Iwo Jima. Aug. 20.

Glenn Ford, 90. Actor who played strong, thoughtful men ("The Blackboard Jungle.") Aug. 30.

September

Bob Mathias, 75. Two-time Olympic decathlon champion; California congressman. Sept. 2.
Steve Irwin, 44. Television's irrepressible "Crocodile Hunter." Sept. 4. Sting ray attack.
Patty Berg, 88. Golf pioneer; won 15 major LPGA titles. Sept. 10.
Ann Richards, 73. Former Texas governor, flamboyant Democrat who went from homemaker to political celebrity. Sept. 13.
Byron Nelson, 94. Golfer; his 11 straight tournament victories in 1945 stand as one of sports' most enduring records. Sept. 26.

October

Helen Chenoweth-Hage, 68. Three-term Idaho congresswoman; outspoken conservative. Oct. 2. Car crash.
Jane Wyatt, 96. One of TV's favorite moms ("Father

Knows Best.") Oct. 20.
Red Auerbach, 89. Basketball Hall of Famer; guided Boston Celtics to 16 championships. Oct. 28.

November

William Styron, 81. Pulitzer-winning novelist ("The Confessions of Nat Turner.") Nov. 1.
Ed Bradley, 65. TV journalist who created a powerful body of work on "60 Minutes." Nov. 9.
Jack Palance, 87. Hollywood heavy ("Shane") who turned to comedy, winning Oscar for "City Slickers." Nov. 10.
Gerald Levert, 40. Fiery R&B singer ("Casanova.") Nov. 10.
Milton Friedman, 94. Nobel-winning economist; advocated an unfettered free market. Nov. 16.
Bo Schembechler, 77. One of college football's great coaches, compiling 194-48-5 record at Michigan. Nov. 17.
Robert Altman, 81. Caustic Hollywood director ("Nashville.") Nov. 20.

December

Jeane J. Kirkpatrick, 80. U.S. ambassador to United Nations during Reagan administration. Dec. 7.
Gen. Augusto Pinochet, 91. Chilean leader who terrorized opponents; took power in bloody coup. Dec. 10.
Peter Boyle, 71. The curmudgeonly father on "Everybody Loves Raymond." Dec. 12.
James Brown, 73. The Godfather of Soul. Dec. 25.
Gerald R. Ford, 93. The 38th president of the United States. Dec. 26.



Wilson Pickett Lloyd Bentsen Buck Owens Mike Douglas Shelly Winters Red Buttons Jeane Kirkpatrick Kenneth Lay Freddie Laker Patsy Ramsey James Brown Gerald R. Ford

A look back at the top news from 2006

The Associated Press

Following the news through 2006.

January

Jan. 1: Dick Clark, in his first television appearance since his stroke in 2004, rings in the new year in Times Square.

Jan. 2: An explosion at Sago Mine in W.Va. kills 1 miner and traps 12 underground; 11 slowly succumb to carbon monoxide poisoning, but Randal McCloy Jr. is rescued after 41 hours.

Jan. 4: Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon suffers a significant stroke, and his official powers are transferred to his deputy, Ehud Olmert.

Jan. 10: Iran resumes nuclear research two years after halting the work to avoid possible U.N. economic sanctions.

Jan. 19: Osama bin Laden, on an audiotape that is his first in more than a year, says al-Qaida is preparing for attacks in the United States.

Jan. 23: Ford Motor Co. says it will cut up to 30,000 jobs and idle 14 facilities in North America by 2012.

Jan. 29: ABC "World News Tonight" co-anchor Bob Woodruff and a cameraman are seriously injured by a roadside bombing in Iraq.

February

Feb. 1: United Airlines leaves bankruptcy after a restructuring that lasted more than three years.

Feb. 13: Audit says millions of dollars in Hurricane Katrina disaster aid were squandered, paying for such items as a \$450 tattoo and \$375-a-day beachfront condos.

Feb. 18: American Shani Davis wins men's 1,000-meter speedskating, becoming first black to win an individual gold medal in Winter

Olympic history.

March

March 1: President Bush makes his first visit to Afghanistan since Taliban was overthrown.

March 3: Former U.S. Rep. Randy "Duke" Cunningham is sentenced to more than eight years in prison for corruption.

March 13: Publisher McClatchy Co. agrees to buy Knight-Ridder, but will sell 12 of its newspapers.

March 27: Al-Qaida conspirator Zacarias Moussaoui testifies that he was supposed to hijack a fifth airplane on Sept. 11, 2001, and fly it into the White House.

April

April 2: Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw make a surprise trip to Iraq to urge its leaders to form a unified government.

April 5: Katie Couric announces she's leaving NBC's "Today" to become anchor of "CBS Evening News."

April 7: U.S. says it will cut, suspend or shift up to \$411 million in Palestinian aid over the next few years to deny funds to Hamas.

May

May 1: The Supreme Court rules Anna Nicole Smith can pursue part of her late husband's oil fortune.

May 9: Freed by rescuers who drilled round-the-clock by hand, two men walk out of the Australian mine where they had been trapped for two weeks by an earthquake.

May 15: United States removes Libya from list of terrorist states and says it will restore normal diplomatic relations.

May 24: Congressional leaders demands that the FBI return documents seized from Rep. William Jefferson's office in a bribery investigation.

June

June 5: An Islamic militia with alleged links to al-Qaida seizes Somalia's capital, Mogadishu, after weeks of fighting with U.S.-backed secular warlords.

June 7: Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, leader of al-Qaida in Iraq, is killed by a U.S. airstrike on his safe house.

June 9: Former Majority Leader Tom DeLay, bowing to legal and ethical troubles, leaves the U.S. House, criticizing liberals in his parting speech and saying partisanship refreshes politics.

June 12: FBI statistics show violent crime across the U.S. surged last year by the largest margin in 15 years.

June 15: The death toll of U.S. servicemen and women in Iraq war reaches 2,500.

July

July 2: Conservative free-trader Felipe Calderon defeats leftist Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador by just 234,000 votes in Mexico's presidential election.

July 3: A discharged U.S. soldier is charged with raping a 14-year-old Iraqi girl and killing her, her parents and sister in March. Four members of his unit are charged as well, and one later pleads guilty and is sentenced to life in prison.

July 4: Discovery lifts off in first Independence Day shuttle launch.

North Korea test-fires a long-range missile, but it fails seconds after launch.

July 5: Israel expands military operation into northern

Gaza to halt firing of rockets into southern Israel.

July 13: Israel imposes naval blockade against Lebanon and blasts the Beirut airport and army air bases; Hezbollah fires dozens of rockets into Israel.

July 14: Spurred by Mideast fighting, oil prices rise to record \$78.40 a barrel.

July 15: U.N. Security Council condemns North Korea's missile tests and imposes limited sanctions; defiant North Korea says it will launch more missiles.

July 19: President Bush issues his first presidential veto, rejecting a bill that could have multiplied federal money for embryonic stem cell research.

July 26: Andrea Yates is found innocent by reason of insanity in the bathtub drownings of her children; she is committed to a state mental hospital.

August

Aug. 4: Israeli missiles slice Lebanon's last highway link to Syria and the outside world.

Aug. 7: BP says 16 miles of corroded pipeline must be replaced in Prudhoe Bay oil field, possibly curtailing production for months; oil prices spike \$2.

Aug. 9: Connecticut Sen. Joe Lieberman loses to an anti-war candidate in the Democratic primary, but he later wins the general election as an independent.

Aug. 10: British police thwart plot to blow up U.S.-bound jetliners using liquid explosives concealed in sports drink bottles; U.S. bans liquids and gels from carry-on bags.

Aug. 11: U.N. Security Council adopts resolution that calls for cease-fire between Israel and Hezbollah.

Aug. 16: John Mark Karr is arrested in Thailand and called a suspect in the Jon-Benet Ramsey slaying. Doubts arise after he publicly claims he was "with her when she died."

September

Sept. 1: Leftists take over stage at Mexican Congress, blocking President Vicente Fox from delivering his state-of-the-nation address.

Sept. 4: "Crocodile Hunter" Steve Irwin dies after a stingray's barb pierces his chest while diving in the Great Barrier Reef.

Sept. 5: Felipe Calderon is declared president-elect of Mexico, but Lopez Obrador vows to lead a parallel leftist government from the streets.

Sept. 12: In a speech in Germany, Pope Benedict XVI quotes from an obscure medieval text that characterizes some teachings of Islam's founder as "evil and inhuman." He later says he sincerely regrets that Muslims were offended.

Sept. 14: An outbreak of E. coli illnesses in 26 states is traced to bagged spinach.

Sept. 20: Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez calls President Bush "the devil" at least eight times in a speech to the United Nations.

October

Oct. 1: Israeli army completes its withdrawal from Lebanon, clearing the way for a U.N. peacekeeping force.

Oct. 2: A milk truck driver takes girls hostage in an Amish schoolhouse in Pennsylvania, killing five girls and shooting five others before committing suicide.

Oct. 15: A strong earthquake strikes the Big Island of Hawaii, damaging buildings and roads.

Oct. 17: The U.S. population hits 300 million.

Oct. 18: The Dow Jones industrial average passes 12,000 for the first time.

Oct. 31: A fire at a residential hotel in Reno, Nev., kills 12 people.

November

Nov. 2: The Rev. Ted Haggard resigns from National Association of Evangelicals after a man says they had sexual trysts. Haggard later confesses he is guilty of sexual immorality.

Nov. 7: Democrats win control of the House and Senate, riding a wave of anger over the Iraq war and scandals.

Nov. 8: Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld resigns, and Bush nominates Robert Gates, a former CIA director, as successor.

Nov. 27: Fire burns down home for elderly and mentally ill in Missouri, killing nine residents and a worker.

December

Dec. 1: Felipe Calderon is sworn in as Mexico's president.

Dec. 2: Typhoon Durian, which tore through the Philippines Nov. 30, leaves 198 people dead and 260 missing.

Dec. 6: The U.S. Senate votes overwhelmingly to confirm Robert Gates as defense secretary.

Dec. 11: Space shuttle Discovery races toward a rendezvous with the international space station, ready to deliver a new crew member and a two-ton addition to the space lab.

Dec. 26: Gerald R. Ford, the 38th president of the United States, dies in Rancho Mirage at the age of 93.