



Marilyn Monroe

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Marilyn Monroe

- Marilyn Monroe born Norma Jeane Mortenson June 1, 1926 – August 4, 1962 was an American actress and model. She was a top-billed actress for a decade, and her films grossed \$200 million equivalent to \$2 billion in 2023 by the time of her death in 1962. Long after her death, Monroe remains a pop culture icon. In 1999, the American Film Institute ranked her as the sixth-greatest female screen legend from the Golden Age of Hollywood.



Childhood and first marriage

- Monroe was born Norma Jeane Mortenson on June 1, 1926, at the Los Angeles General Hospital in Los Angeles, California. Her mother, Gladys Pearl Baker 1902–1984, was born in Piedras Negras, Coahuila, Mexico¹ to a poor Midwestern family who migrated to California at the turn of the century. At age 15, Gladys had married John Newton Baker, an abusive man nine years her senior. They had two children together, Robert 1918–1933 and Berniece 1919–2014. She successfully filed for divorce and sole custody of her two oldest in 1923, but Baker kidnapped the children soon after and moved with them to his native Kentucky.



- Monroe was not told that she had a sister until she was 12, and they met for the first time in 1944 when Monroe was 17 or 18. Following the divorce, Gladys worked as a film negative cutter at Consolidated Film Industries.^[13] Her second marriage occurred in 1924 when she married Martin Edward Mortensen, but they separated just months later and divorced in 1928. In 2022, DNA testing indicated that Monroe's father was Charles Stanley Gifford 1898–1965, a co-worker of Gladys, with whom she had an affair in 1925. Monroe also had two other half-siblings from Gifford's marriage with his first wife, a sister, Doris Elizabeth 1920–1933, and a brother, Charles Stanley 1922–2015.

Marilyn Monroe in 1944

- In 1946, she signed her first contract with Twentieth Century Fox. The studio head, Ben Lyon, suggested the stage name Marilyn, after Broadway star Marilyn Miller, and Monroe, her mother's maiden name. Her early roles included minor parts in "Scudda Hoo! Scudda Hay!" and "Dangerous Years" in 1947. The following year, Monroe went platinum blonde, and soon came her big break. In 1950, she had notable performances in "The Asphalt Jungle" and "All About Eve." By 1953, she had become a major star with leading roles in "Niagara," "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes" and "How to Marry a Millionaire." While she adopted Marilyn Monroe as her stage name in 1946, it wasn't until 10 years later in 1956 that she legally changed it.

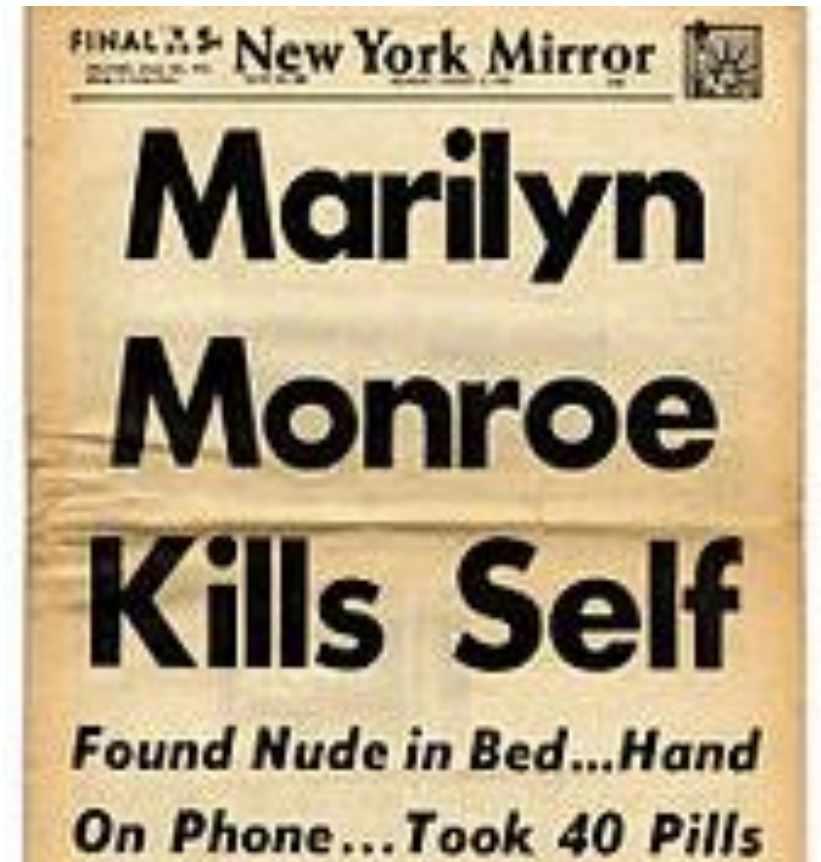




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- In 1949, 22-year-old Monroe received \$50 to pose nude for a Los Angeles photographer against a red velvet backdrop. Monroe had initially refused to pose until financial desperation led her to agree, according to the Monroe biography Marilyn Her Life in Her Own Words. I was desperate, Monroe explained. What else could I do? She insisted on anonymity and used the alias Mona Monroe.

Death and funeral

- During her final months, Monroe lived at 12305 Fifth Helena Drive in the Brentwood neighborhood of Los Angeles. Her housekeeper Eunice Murray was staying overnight at the home on the evening of August 4, 1962. Murray woke at 3:00 A.M. on August 5 and sensed that something was wrong. She saw light from under Monroe's bedroom door but was unable to get a response and found the door locked. Murray then called Monroe's psychiatrist, Ralph Greenson, who arrived at the house shortly after and broke into the bedroom through a window to find Monroe dead in her bed. Monroe's physician, Hyman Engelberg, arrived at around 3A.M and pronounced her dead. At 4:25 A.M, the Los Angeles Police Department was notified.[[]





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- <https://wwd.com/feature/marilyn-monroe-modeling-career-1236410948/>
- <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0000054/>
- <https://www.biography.com/actors/marilyn-monroe>
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marilyn_Monroe

