



Cheers' Norm Actor George Wendt Dies at 76

Description

George Wendt, renowned for his portrayal of the affable, beer-loving Norm Peterson on the iconic sitcom "Cheers," passed away on Tuesday morning at his residence in Studio City, California, at the age of 76. This news was confirmed by his manager, Geoff Cheddy, who did not disclose the cause of death.

Over a prolific career spanning more than forty years, Wendt amassed approximately 170 credits across film and television, though he is best remembered for his role on "Cheers." Throughout the sitcom's 11-season run on NBC, which commenced in 1982, he featured in every single episode. His remarkable streak of six consecutive Primetime Emmy nominations for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series began in 1984.

Originating from the South Side of Chicago, Mr. Wendt initially embarked on his artistic journey in a less-than-glamorous manner, [sweeping floors](#) at The Second City, the illustrious improvisational comedy venue that has been a launching pad for numerous comedic talents, including John Belushi and Tina Fey.

In 1974, he became a key member of the Second City touring ensemble and resident company. "I had [no prior acting experience](#)," he reflected in a 2013 interview. "Yet, somehow, everything clicked." He remained with the company until 1980.

Armed with his affable charm and an everyman persona, Wendt eventually ventured to Hollywood, where he appeared in the pilot for the NBC series "Nothing but Comedy." He subsequently made guest appearances on well-received shows such as "Taxi," "Alice," and "Hart to Hart," before cementing his legacy as America's beloved barfly on "Cheers."

Wendt once remarked that his ample stature contributed significantly to the character of Norm, rendering him a relatable figure with whom viewers could easily connect. "One of the perks of being a larger man in this profession is that dieting is not a concern," he quipped. "If I shed weight, it might prompt comments like, 'Oh, not another comedian striving for a leading man role!'"

Despite the resonance between himself and Norm, Wendt acknowledged differences between his real life and the fictional character he depicted.

"The Norm seen in 'Cheers' is the culmination of years of development," he noted. "While we share certain traits, particularly our mutual affinity for beer, I'd like to believe I lead a more contented life than Norm."

He further observed: "I was a beer enthusiast long before 'Cheers' came into my life. When I load several six-packs into my shopping cart, people often smile, thinking I'm stocking up for a cozy evening at home to rehearse."



Vocabulary List:

1. **Affable** /'æf.ə.bəl/ (adjective): Friendly and easy to talk to.
2. **Prolific** /prə'lif.ɪk/ (adjective): Producing many works results or offspring; fruitful or productive.
3. **Illustrious** /ɪ'lʌs.tri.əs/ (adjective): Well-known respected and admired for past achievements.
4. **Persona** /pər'soʊ.nə/ (noun): The aspect of someone's character that is presented to or perceived by others.
5. **Cementing** /sɪ'men.tɪŋ/ (verb): Establishing firmly; consolidating.
6. **Cultivation** /ˌkʌl.tɪ'veɪ.ʃən/ (noun): The act of fostering growth or development.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. Where did George Wendt pass away?
Option: Studio City, California
Option: Chicago, Illinois
Option: New York City, New York
Option: Miami, Florida
2. For how many seasons did George Wendt feature in every episode of
Option: 11 seasons
Option: 6 seasons
Option: 9 seasons
Option: 13 seasons
3. In what year did George Wendt start featuring in the sitcom
Option: 1982
Option: 1975
Option: 1990
Option: 1995
4. Where did George Wendt begin his artistic journey in a less-than-glamorous manner?
Option: The Second City
Option: Hollywood
Option: Broadway



Option: Universal Studios

5. George Wendt received how many consecutive Primetime Emmy nominations for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series?

Option: 6 nominations

Option: 3 nominations

Option: 5 nominations

Option: 8 nominations

6. In what year did George Wendt part ways with The Second City?

Option: 1980

Option: 1975

Option: 1990

Option: 1985

True-False

7. George Wendt passed away in New York City.

8. George Wendt made guest appearances on shows like

9. Norm Peterson, the character played by George Wendt in

10. George Wendt shared many traits with his character Norm from

11. George Wendt was a beer enthusiast even before his role in

12. George Wendt felt content portraying his character Norm in

Gap-Fill

13. George Wendt was best known for his role in the iconic sitcom _____.

14. George Wendt received _____ Primetime Emmy nominations for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series.



15. George Wendt embarked on his artistic journey by sweeping floors at _____ improvisational comedy venue.
16. George Wendt made guest appearances on shows like "Taxi," "Alice," and "_____."
17. People often thought George Wendt was stocking up for a cozy evening at home because he loaded several six-packs into his shopping _____.
18. "An exhaustive obituary will be published _____."

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Studio City, California 2. 11 seasons 3. 1982 4. The Second City 5. 6 nominations 6. 1980

True-False: 7. False 8. True 9. False 10. True 11. True 12. False

Gap-Fill: 13. Cheers 14. 6 15. The Second City 16. Hart to Hart 17. cart 18. shortly

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What term describes what a person leaves behind or is remembered for?
- Option: Affable
 - Option: Legacy
 - Option: Prolific
 - Option: Fatal
2. What is the term for the quality of being stable and not easily changed?
- Option: Convicted
 - Option: Stability
 - Option: Investigative
 - Option: Harassment
3. What term describes unacceptable or improper behavior especially by professionals?



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- Option: Negligence
Option: Submission
Option: Misconduct
Option: Hostile
4. Which term means having deep insight or understanding?
Option: Anticipation
Option: Profound
Option: Disconnection
Option: Plaintiffs
5. What word describes a state of being happy and satisfied?
Option: Accountable
Option: Contented
Option: Submission
Option: Contend
6. What term means publicly praised or celebrated?
Option: Reception
Option: Prospects
Option: Acclaimed
Option: Strategic
7. Which term means leading to disaster or death?
Option: Assault
Option: Fatal
Option: Investigative
Option: Convicted
8. What term describes someone who pays close attention and watches carefully?
Option: Intuitively
Option: Observant
Option: Discharging
Option: Harassment
9. What term means friendly good-natured or easy to talk to?
Option: Allegations
Option: Affable
Option: Accountable
Option: Submission
10. What term describes behavior that annoys or troubles someone repeatedly?
Option: Hostile



- Option: Plaintiffs
- Option: Harassment
- Option: Negligence

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. A strong work ethic and dedication often contribute to leaving behind a lasting _____.
12. When you are quietly _____ you can learn a lot about the environment around you.
13. There is a noticeable _____ between what was promised and what was delivered.
14. The defendant was found guilty and _____ of the crime.
15. The accident occurred due to the driver's _____ in checking the brakes.
16. The team's _____ to the authority's decision ensured a smooth transition.
17. Despite facing challenges the team will _____ for the top position in the tournament.
18. The journalist's _____ report exposed corruption at the highest levels of government.
19. In a leadership role one must be transparent and _____ for their actions.
20. Developing a long-term plan requires careful and _____ thinking.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. After years of writer's block the author finally completed three novels in a single year.
22. She made the decision not based on logic but on her gut feeling and instincts.
23. The excitement and nervousness before a big event are often filled with hopeful .
24. The soldier was praised for his bravery in his duties under extreme pressure.
25. The in the case presented compelling evidence to support their claims.
26. The negotiators feared that the response from the opposing party would derail the peace talks.



27. The media reported on the serious made against the public figure.
28. The team's of the proposal marked the beginning of a new collaboration.
29. The artist's work received a warm and enthusiastic from the audience.
30. Despite initial setbacks the company's future business look promising.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Legacy 2. Stability 3. Misconduct 4. Profound 5. Contented 6. Acclaimed 7. Fatal
8. Observant 9. Affable 10. Harassment

Gap-Fill: 11. legacy 12. observing 13. disconnection 14. convicted 15. negligence 16. submission 17.
contend 18. investigative 19. accountable 20. strategic

Matching sentence: 1. prolific 2. intuitively 3. anticipation 4. discharging 5. plaintiffs 6. hostile 7. allegations
8. submission 9. reception 10. prospects

CATEGORY

1. Entertainment - LEVEL5

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