

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, <u>sweeping floors</u> 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 sixpacks 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'lɪf.ɪk/ (adjective): Producing many works results or offspring; fruitful or productive.
- 3. Illustrious /ɪˈlʌs.tri.əs/ (adjective): Well-known respected and admired for past achievements.
- 4. **Persona** /pərˈsoʊ.nə/ (noun): The aspect of someone's character that is presented to or perceived by others.
- 5. Cementing /sɪˈmɛn.tɪŋ/ (verb): Establishing firmly; consolidating.
- 6. **Cultivation** /,kʌl.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 I	Emmy nominations fo	r Outstanding Supporting
Ac	tor 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?





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

NEWS.COM 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

$\mbox{\sc Gap-Fill}$ ($\mbox{\sc Fill}$ 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

ESL-NEWS.COM 8. submission 9. reception 10. prospects

CATEGORY

1. Entertainment - LEVEL5

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