



Sean Astin recalls 'traumatic' incident with mother Patty Duke

Description

Sean Astin remembers a "traumatic" time with his famous mother, Patty Duke. He was a young actor when it happened on a movie set. Duke became very upset with a crew member. This person made a rude comment about Astin's braces.

Astin joked, "She was only 4 feet 11 inches, but she scared people." He felt her reaction was more intense than the comment itself. Astin said that Duke wanted to protect him from pain because of her own difficult childhood.

Astin started acting at a young age. He got his first role in a TV movie when he was only 10 years old. He became well-known after his role in *The Goonies* at age 14. During this time, Duke often supported him on set.

Duke had a successful acting career. She won an Academy Award for playing Helen Keller in *The Miracle Worker*. After her death in 2016, Astin remembered her for her love and kindness in life.

Vocabulary List:

1. **traumatic** //trə'mætɪk// (adjective): very upsetting and causing long lasting hurt
2. **reaction** //ri'ækʃən// (noun): what someone does or feels after something happens
3. **intense** //ɪn'tens// (adjective): very strong in feeling or degree
4. **protect** //prə'tekt// (verb): keep someone or something safe from harm
5. **supported** //sə'pɔrtɪd// (verb): helped someone especially during hard times
6. **kindness** //kaɪndnəs// (noun): being friendly and willing to help others

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What was the name of Sean Astin's mother?

Option: Meryl Streep

Option: Patty Duke

Option: Julie Andrews



Option: Diane Keaton

2. At what age did Sean Astin get his first role in a TV movie?

- Option: 8 years old
- Option: 10 years old
- Option: 12 years old
- Option: 14 years old

3. In which movie did Sean Astin become well-known?

- Option: The Goonies
- Option: The Lord of the Rings
- Option: Stand By Me
- Option: Indiana Jones

4. What height was Patty Duke?

- Option: 5 feet 1 inch
- Option: 4 feet 11 inches
- Option: 5 feet 4 inches
- Option: 6 feet

5. For which role did Patty Duke win an Academy Award?

- Option: For playing Anne Frank
- Option: For playing Helen Keller
- Option: For playing Judy Garland
- Option: For playing Mary Poppins

6. What year did Patty Duke pass away?

- Option: 2014
- Option: 2015
- Option: 2016
- Option: 2017

True-False

7. Sean Astin was afraid of his mother, Patty Duke.

8. Patty Duke had a history of a difficult childhood.



-
9. Sean Astin's mother was very supportive of him during his acting career.
10. Sean Astin started his acting career in his twenties.
11. Patty Duke won an Emmy Award during her career.
12. Sean Astin's reaction to the crew member's comment was one of indifference.

Gap-Fill

13. Sean Astin remembers a _____ time with his mother, Patty Duke.
14. Duke became upset with a crew member for making a rude comment about Astin's _____ .
15. Astin became well-known after his role in _____ at age 14.
16. Patty Duke won an Academy Award for playing Helen Keller in The _____ Worker.
17. Astin said Duke wanted to protect him from pain because of her own _____ childhood.
18. After her death in 2016, Astin remembered his mother for her love and _____ in life.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Patty Duke 2. 10 years old 3. The Goonies 4. 4 feet 11 inches 5. For playing Helen Keller 6. 2016

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

Gap-Fill: 13. traumatic 14. braces 15. The Goonies 16. Miracle 17. difficult 18. kindness

Vocabulary quizzes

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



-
1. Which quality is often recognized in soldiers for their actions in challenging situations?
Option: Fearfulness
Option: Bravery
Option: Indifference
Option: Apathy
 2. What type of event often features various performances, activities, and cultural exhibitions?
Option: Market
Option: Exhibition
Option: Festival
Option: Symposium
 3. What is given to recognize outstanding achievements in various fields?
Option: Award
Option: Penalty
Option: Compensation
Option: Charge
 4. What term describes a group of people living in the same area or who share similar interests?
Option: Association
Option: Community
Option: Network
Option: Organization
 5. What is the term for making something available to the public or distributing it?
Option: Launch
Option: Release
Option: Retreat
Option: Hide
 6. What industry focuses on providing enjoyment and activities for people?
Option: Hospitality
Option: Education
Option: Construction
Option: Entertainment
 7. How is content often distributed in today's technology-driven world?
Option: Analog
Option: Physically
Option: Digitally
Option: Manually



8. What word describes a very strong or extreme level of something?

- Option: Mild
- Option: Passive
- Option: Intense
- Option: Faint

9. What term refers to being backed or helped by others?

- Option: Ignored
- Option: Supported
- Option: Overlooked
- Option: Challenged

10. What verb means to make fun of or attempt to provoke someone in a playful way?

- Option: Ignore
- Option: Tease
- Option: Assist
- Option: Support

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

11. The soldier's immediate _____ to the situation displayed remarkable courage.

12. It is essential to _____ our community from external threats.

13. Her _____ toward the volunteers made a big difference during the festival.

14. The documentary was enhanced by real _____ taken during the events.

15. The festival served as a platform for _____ exchange among different communities.

16. Many artists were invited to _____ at the annual festival.

17. The event was held at multiple _____ across the city to accommodate larger crowds.

18. The discussion was led by a _____ of experts in the field.

19. We gather here to _____ those who have made significant contributions to our culture.



20. The community saw significant _____ due to the support of local initiatives.

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

21. The competition was intense, pushing all participants to their limits.
22. The organization has always been supported by the local community.
23. Efforts to protect the environment became a focal point for many activists.
24. Acts of kindness can have a profound impact on those around us.
25. Bravery is often recognized in individuals who confront fear and danger.
26. The film's release was highly anticipated by fans around the world.
27. Cultural festivals celebrate heritage and promote diversity within communities.
28. The footage captured during the event was both inspiring and heartwarming.
29. Numerous venues participated in the event, showcasing their unique offerings.
30. The program aims to foster growth and development within the local community.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Bravery 2. Festival 3. Award 4. Community 5. Release 6. Entertainment 7. Digitally
8. Intense 9. Supported 10. Tease

Gap-Fill: 11. reaction 12. protect 13. kindness 14. footage 15. cultural 16. perform 17. venues 18. panel
19. honour 20. growth

Matching sentence: 1. intense 2. supported 3. protect 4. kindness 5. bravery 6. release 7. cultural 8. footage
9. venues 10. growth

CATEGORY

1. Entertainment - LEVEL1

POST TAG

1. A1
2. ESL learning
3. esl news
4. L1



5. Level 1
6. Patty Duke
7. Sean Astin
8. traumatic experience

Tags

1. A1
2. ESL learning
3. esl news
4. L1
5. Level 1
6. Patty Duke
7. Sean Astin
8. traumatic experience

Date Created

2026/08/03

Author

aimeeyoung99

ESL-NEWS.COM