

## American figures we lost in 1998

We said goodbye to leaders and legends, entertainers, sportsmen and politicians. Florence Griffith Joyner left us in 1998 as did Barry Goldwater, Alan Shepard and the infamous Pol Pot.

Also bid adieu to the Chairman of the Board — 'Ol Blue Eyes — The Voice. Frank Sinatra, was perhaps the greatest exponent of the American popular song, the man who made aching ballads of love and loss an art form.

Was the end of an era, too, when we lost Roy Rogers and Gene Autry, cowboy kings of the silver and small screens. Gene Autry was a new breed of cowboy, short on violence and long on music. Roy Rogers made over 80 westerns where the formula was always the same, good guy Roy fighting the bad guys of the West.

The political side, we lost former Arizona Sen. Barry Goldwater, who led the conservative party in the 1950's and 1960's and former Tennessee Sen. Albert Gore Sr., a key Southern liberal who lived to see his son become vice president.

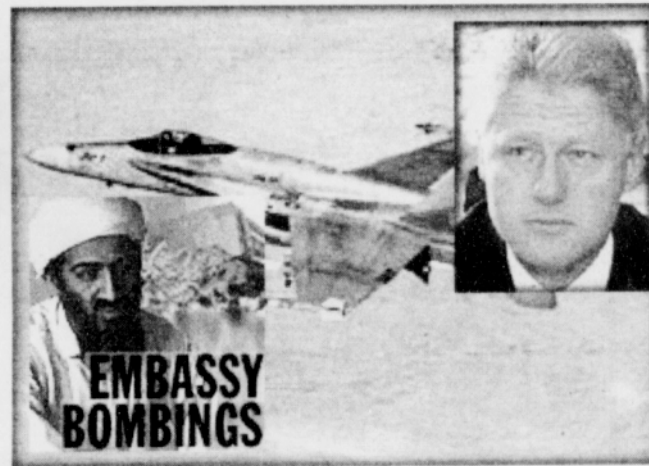
We lost Alan Shepard, one of the original seven astronauts to fly in space and the fifth man to walk on the

moon. Also, James Earl Ray, who pleaded guilty to killing Martin Luther King Jr., and later recanted. Environmentalist Marjory Stoneman Douglas, champion of the Everglades, passed away at the age of 108.

We lost the infamous Pol Pot, architect of Cambodia's "killing fields" and Telford Taylor, who prosecuted Nazi war criminals at Nuremberg and helped lay foundation for the principle that governments must be held accountable for mistreating citizens. Other world figures we lost in 1998

The sports arena, track and field superstar Florence Griffith Joyner, still fit at 38, was taken by a brain seizure as she slept. Also, the legendary voice of baseball Harry Caray was laid to rest. Richard "Dick" McDonald, who with his brother started the fast food giant McDonald's, died in 1998. So, did Hazel Bishop, the chemist who made indelible mark on cosmetics industry by inventing kiss-proof lipstick.

Every one of us has lost someone dear to us in 1998. But what we have to do is look forward to 1999 as a new year. And keep the memories of those we love close in our heart.



## The Year of 1999 in Review

US companies were announced, a 77 percent jump from 1997's total of \$906 billion, according to Securities Data Co. Exxon-Mobil, NationsBank and Bank of America, Daimler Benz and Chrysler were just a few of many.

### The Year in Sports:

#### Heroes are back. Finally.

After years in which you could find an athlete's name in a police blotter as often as a box score, and the only reason we looked up to players was because of their height, 1998 saw us yet again talk about sports in a positive light.

### The Year in Entertainment

Against the backdrop of the formulaic comedy/drama of impeachable proportions unfolding in Washington, a scandal weary public was all too eager to embrace kinder, gentler offerings from the Arts in 1998...

Only a year after Titanic seemed to

usher in the return of the multi-million dollar, special effects heavy/plot lacking blockbuster, we regained our collective movie-going conscience. Saving Private Ryan, a movie that reminded us about all that was good about America, grossed \$190 Million. For laughs we turned to quirky comedies like *Something About Mary* and *The Waterboy*. *Armageddon* rocked the box office, while the other 'meteor' movie, *Deep Impact*, fell flat.

The Year of 1998 was glorious in many ways and splendor. As we approach 1999, we can take a look back and see our mistakes and accomplishments.

*So as we toast, laugh, and enjoy what's to come. The Year of 1999 is here and now-*

## Year of Extreme

Lost years leave a temporary imprint on our gray matter, like bootprints in the snow that gradually turn to slush, then wash away completely. The past year, highlighted by extremes of nature - human and otherwise - may have left an indelible, muddy heelprint on our brains.

Politics regressed from partisan to petty to pitiful. Kids committed adult crimes. Grown-ups acted like juveniles. And a monster weather pattern named after a baby whooped up on the U.S. like a mean old man. Meanwhile, most of us simply went about our lives, rolling our eyes at the hems and haws of beltway pundits, Dow watchers and spin meisters.

But nobody escaped 1998 untouched. Here's a look at some of the stories that held our attention over the past 12 months:

Monica, Bill, Linda, Ken and the rest of the gang were the story of 1998. If you haven't been paying attention, a young White House intern's thong panties led to the impeachment of President Clinton, the downfall of a House Speaker

and an elected successor, and the most bitter partisan debate on Capitol Hill in recent memory.

El Nino rocked our cradle. Ice storms paralyzed the Northeast and Canada. Snow flogged the Midwest. Tornadoes and fires ravaged Florida. Texas slogged through floods. And the west coast bore the brunt of the The Baby's bad breath. Water, Wind, Fire in '98.

Playgrounds became battlegrounds across the U.S., from Paducah to Jonesboro to Fayetteville, as disturbed kids trained their anger and their guns on innocent classmates. When Boys Go Bad

### Gun Violence & Children

A string of grisly murders showed hate on an adult scale. An elusive Eric Rudolph, suspected in two fatal bombings, at once became America's Most Wanted and its hardest to find. Meanwhile, the hate-laced murders of a gay college student in Wyoming and a black hitchhiker in Texas left the nation in a daze. Russell Weston Jr. walked into the U.S. Capitol, killed two heroic security guards,

and made us all want to double-lock our doors.

From Shootings to Investigation

While we pride ourselves on swift and fair justice, not everyone agrees on our methods. The U.S. recently executed its 500th death-row prisoner, women included, since 1977. Human Rights groups cry hypocrisy. Meanwhile, at least 3,500 more prisoners await the dead man's walk. Karla Faye Tucker Executed

James Earl Ray faced a higher judgment. Unabomber Ted Kaczynski and Oklahoma City accomplice Terry Nichols got life for taking lives. King Assassin Leaves Behind Theories

Viagra entered our syntax - and our bedrooms. showed us how much life imitates art.

Thomas Jefferson's family tree sprouted a new branch. And John Glenn gave the U.S a jolt of the right stuff at the right time.

One can only imagine what's in store for 1999. A Monica talk show? Media restraint? Bipartisan anything? We'll see soon enough ...

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