

WILLIAM McKINLEY

1897 - 1901



William McKinley was born in 1843 in Niles, Ohio. After attending Allegheny College in Pennsylvania, he taught school in Ohio. He served in the Civil War, studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1867. He began his congressional career in 1876 on his election to the House of Representatives.

Ida Saxton McKinley was born in 1847 in Canton, Ohio. As a young woman, she was pretty, fashionable, and a leader of the Canton younger set. While working in her father's bank, she caught the attention of William McKinley. They were married in 1871. Ida's first daughter died at age five and her second daughter died in infancy.



President William McKinley served two terms as governor of Ohio before being elected as president in 1896 by defeating William Jennings Bryan. During his administration, the war with Spain resulted in the United States' acquisition of Puerto Rico, the Philippines, and Guam; and jurisdiction over Cuba. In McKinley's second term, he was shot by an anarchist at Buffalo, New York. He died eight days later on September 14, 1901.

By the time of the death of her oldest child in 1876, Ida McKinley had become a confirmed invalid. But at the White House, she made it appear as if her health did not affect her role as First Lady. She received guests seated and holding a bouquet; McKinley always watched her closely for signs of a seizure. After her husband's death, Ida returned to Canton and was cared for by her sister until she died in 1907.

Arizona Timeline

1897 - The Kingman Bottling works, run by John Dillon, was producing various bottled soft drinks as well as Schlitz beer.

1898 - The Rough Riders, including men from Arizona, fight in Cuba during the Spanish American War.

1899 - Construction begins on a new capitol building in Phoenix.

1900 - Kingman's population is 550. Chloride is now a booming town of 2,000. Jose Jerez discovers Gold Road Mine, May 1900 (recorded in June).