Bob Hope Turns 111

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Bob turned 22 on 5291925!

Bob turned 88 in 1991, and 99 in 2002!

D+o+l+o+r+e+s=88; R+e+a+d+e=33; H+o+p+e=44!

5
2
9
1
9
0
3

7
2
7
2
0
0
3

Happy 111ᵗʰ Birthday, Bob Hope!

Bob Hope, an English-born American comedian, vaudevillian, actor, singer, dancer, author, and athlete, was born (as Leslie Townes Hope) in Eltham, London, on May 29, 1903 and died in Toluca Lake, Los Angeles, California, on July 27, 2003, at age 100 [1]. He was married to performer Dolores Hope (May 27, 1909-September 19, 2011) for 69 years. When I was a kid, I watched some of Bob Hope's movies and had so much fun.

This week, Thursday, May 29, 2014 will mark Bob Hope's 111th birthday. To celebrate his 111th palindrome-number birthday and to express my gratitude to him for making me laugh so many times in my childhood years, I constructed the following birthday brainteasers for him as a birthday gift:

1. Bob Hope's 111th repunit palindrome-number [2] birthday is a special one since his name, "BOB," is also a palindrome.
2. Bob Hope's upcoming birthday number 111 equals 37 x 3, where 37 and 3 put side by side as 373 is a palindrome. In addition, 3 and 37 are the 2nd and the 12th primes, where 2 and 12 side by side make 212, another palindrome.
3. The squares of the digits of 5-29-2014 (Bob Hope's 111th birthday) add up to 131, another palindrome.
4. If numbers 1 to 26 are assigned to the letters of the English alphabet, the numbers assigned to the letters of Bob Hope's last name, "HOPE," add up to 44, another palindrome! Also, 44 equal 2 x 11 x 2 where these three numbers put side by side make 2112, another palindrome.
5. The sum of the numbers assigned to the letters of Bob Hope's full birth name, "LESLIE TOWNES HOPE," equals palindrome 202.
6. The numbers assigned to the letters of Bob Hope's wife's name, "DOLORES," add up to palindrome 88. In addition, the numbers assigned to the letters of Dolores's adopted last name before she married Bob Hope, "READE," add up to palindrome 33.

7. Bob Hope turned 22 (palindrome age) on May 29, 1925, and this calendar date expressed as 5-29-1925, or simply 5291925, was a truly palindrome day [3]. Wow! Also, the digits of 5291925 add up to palindrome 33. In addition, if year 1925 is split in the middle as 19 and 25, 19 plus 25 yields palindrome 44.
8. Bob Hope turned 88 in palindrome year 1991, and 99 in palindrome year 2002. Amazing!
9. Bob Hope turned into palindrome ages 11, 22, 33, 44, 55, 66, and 77 in the years 1914, 1925, 1936, 1947, 1958, 1969, and 1980 where if these years are split in the middle, 19 + 14 = 33, 19 + 25 = 44, 19 + 36 = 55, 19 + 47 = 66, 19 + 58 = 77, 19 + 69 = 88, and 19 + 80 = 99, respectively. Isn't this fun?
10. Bob Hope died during the 101st year of his life. He died on July 27, 2003, 307 days before his 101st palindrome-number birthday. Interestingly enough, number 307 is the 63rd prime, where 63 equals the sum of the numbers assigned to the letters of "BOB HOPE."
11. In addition to his 111th repunit birthday, this year also marks the 11th repunit anniversary of Bob Hope's death in 2003, on July 27, expressed as 7-27, or simply 727, another palindrome.
12. After his 111th, Bob Hope's next palindrome-number birthday, his 121st to occur in 2024, will also be special. Why? First, 121 equal the sum of the numbers assigned to the letters of his wife's name, "DOLORES READE," before they got married. Second, if 2024 is split in the middle as 20 and 24, these two numbers add up to palindrome 44. (Note also that Dolores and Bob Hope were married for 69 years, where 69 = 3 x 23, where 3 and 23 put side by side make palindrome 323.)
13. Bob Hope's wife, Dolores Hope, died on September 19, 2011, where September 19 expressed as 919 is another palindrome. Also, September 19 was the 262nd day of 2011.

Bob Hope indeed had many hidden palindromes in his life and this is why his upcoming repunit-number 111th birthday is so special. And while we get ready to celebrate Bob Hope's birthday, I hope you can also help unveil other palindromes in his life.

Happy 111th birthday, Bob Hope!

[1] Bob Hope, Wikipedia
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bob_Hope
[2] Repunit
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Repunit
[3] A. S. Inan, "Palindrome Dates in 2011," *The Beacon*, Vol. 112, Issue No. 8, pp. 12 & 13, University of Portland, Portland, Oregon, October 28, 2010.

Aziz S. Inan is a professor of electrical engineering teaching at University of Portland for 25 years. As a hobby, he enjoys finding interesting numerical properties associated with numbers, connections and coincidences between numbers, calendar dates, birthdays, historical dates, etc. He can be reached at 503-943-7429 or ainan@up.edu. (Note that the purpose of this article is solely recreational and for fun.)