

Brain teasers to Celebrate Susan Hayward's Centennial Birthday

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Susan Hayward was an American actress who was born on June 30, 1917 in Brooklyn, New York and died on March 14, 1975 in Hollywood, California [1]. Her birth name was Edythe Marrener.

Hayward began her career as a fashion model in New York City. She then moved to Hollywood and began acting in 1937. Throughout her career, Hayward took a role in more than 50 motion pictures. Among Hayward's many achievements, she was nominated for the Oscar for *Smash-Up, The Story of a Woman* in 1947, *My Foolish Heart* in 1949, *With a Song in My Heart* in 1952, and *I'll Cry Tomorrow* in 1955. She won her Academy Award in 1959 for Best Actress when she portrayed the death-row inmate Barbara Graham in *I want to Live!*

Hayward had a turbulent personal life. After giving birth to two twin boys in 1945, Hayward divorced from her first husband in 1954. In 1955, at the height of her career, she attempted suicide by taking an overdose of sleeping pills.

Hayward married her second husband in 1957 and they both were baptized Catholic in 1964. Before her Catholic baptism, Hayward was a proponent of astrology. Hayward relied on an astrologist who informed her that the optimum time to sign a movie contract was exactly 2:47a.m., causing her to set her alarm for 2:45a.m. so she could be sure to follow this instruction.

Hayward got diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor in March 1973. Two years later, she suffered a seizure in her Beverly Hills home and died at 57. There have been allegations that she may have developed cancer from radioactive fallout from atmospheric atomic bomb tests while making the movie *The Conqueror* with actor John Wayne near St. George, Utah, in 1954. Several production members of the movie as well as Wayne himself died of cancer and cancer-related illnesses. The cast crew consisted of 220 people. By the end of 1980, 91 of them developed some form of cancer and 46 had died of the disease.

In one of her quotes, Hayward stated, "I learned at a very early age that life is a battle. My family was poor, my neighborhood was poor. The only way that I could get away from the awfulness of

life, at that time, was at the movies. There I decided that my big aim was to make money. And it was there that I became a very determined woman” [2].

In another quote, Hayward said, “When you’re dead, you’re dead. No one is going to remember me when I’m dead. Oh, may be a few friends will remember me affectionately. Being remembered isn’t the most important thing, anyhow. It’s what you do when you are here that’s important.”

Hayward waged a courageous battle against her brain tumor. Given six weeks to three months to live, she survived for more than two years. Hayward’s physician who knew her for 30 years stated that she had a tremendous desire to live and she was a terrific fighter [3].

This week, June 30, 2017 marks Hayward’s centennial birthday and I prepared the following birthday brainteasers in her honor:

1. The product of 3 and 14, the month and day numbers of Hayward’s death, equals 42 and the 42nd prime number is 181. Coincidentally, Hayward’s centennial birthday is the 181st day of 2017.
2. Moreover, Hayward attended Public School 181 in Brooklyn.
3. Further, 42 times 15 equals 630 which is Hayward’s birth date, June 30. Additionally, the sum of 42 and 15 results in 57, the age she died.
4. Coincidentally, March 14 this year (2017) marked the 42nd anniversary of Hayward’s death.
5. If numbers one to 26 are assigned to the letters of the English alphabet as A being 1, B being 2, C being 3, etc., the sum of the numbers assigned to the letters of Hayward’s name *Susan* equals 74. Coincidentally, March 14, the day Hayward died, is the 74th day of each leap year.
6. The prime factors of 1917, Hayward’s birth year, are 3 and 71 where the sum of these two numbers also equals 74 (Susan).
7. If Hayward’s birthday 6/30/1917 is split into 6, 30, 19, and 17, the sum of 6 and 30 equals the sum of 19 and 17. Additionally, the product of the digits of 1917 equals 63 and the reverse of 63 is 36, which equals 6 plus 30.
8. If Hayward’s centennial birthday 06/30/2017 is split into 06, 30, 20, and 17, these four numbers add up to 73 and note that Hayward death coincides with the 73rd day of 1975.
9. Hayward’s centennial birthday 6302017 equals the product of 73, 131, and 659, which are the 21st, 32nd, and 120th prime numbers. The sum of 21, 32, and 120 equals 173. Coincidentally, the sum of the numbers assigned to the letters of Hayward’s birth name *Edythe Marrenner* equals 173 too.
10. Lastly, if Hayward’s centennial birthday is expressed in day/month/year date format as 30/6/2017 or simply as 3062017, when split into 306 and 2017, these two numbers have a “hidden” connection: 2017 is the 306th prime number.

Happy 100th birthday to Susan Hayward!

[1] Susan Hayward, Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Susan_Hayward

[2] Susan Hayward, Biography-IMDb

<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0001333/bio>

[3] Susan Hayward

<http://projects.latimes.com/hollywood/star-walk/susan-hayward/>