

# William H. Harrison

9th President

Born: Feb. 9, 1773

Birthplace: Berkeley, VA

Died: April 4, 1841

Burial Site: North Bend, OH

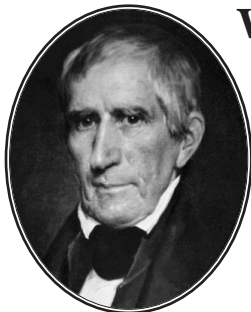
Spouse: Anna Symmes

Occupation: Farmer, soldier

Political Party: Whig

Term: 1841, one month

Vice President: John Tyler



General William Henry Harrison, the hero of frontier days from the Ohio River to the Great Lakes, came to the White House as the oldest man ever elected president up to that time. He died a month after his inauguration.

Born on Feb. 9, 1773, in Berkeley, Charles City Co., VA, he was educated at Hampden Sydney College, studied medicine under Dr. Benjamin Rush, and fought under General Anthony Wayne at Fallen Timber.

"Old Tippecanoe" ran against President Martin Van Buren in 1840 and defeated him. This brave man had been a tough Indian fighter, defeating a savage band of land hungry Shawnees at Tippecanoe Creek in Indiana in 1811.

The Whigs came up with the "Old Tippecanoe" while trying to cash in on the popularity of Andrew Jackson. Harrison was actually a Virginia-born aristocrat.

The Whig party selected Harrison as its presidential candidate in 1840 after a contest with Henry Clay of Kentucky. His election was close in most states, but Harrison won all but a handful of them. After his election, Harrison chose Daniel Webster for secretary of state and prepared to restore the United States Bank, according to the Whig platform.

Harrison caught pneumonia during inaugural ceremonies which included his 105-minute inaugural address, the longest presidential inaugural address, and died April 4, 1841.