



Abraham Lincoln

16th President

Born: Feb. 12, 1809

Birthplace: Hardin Co., KY

Died: April 15, 1865

Burial Site: Springfield, IL

Spouse: Mary Todd

Occupation: Lawyer

Political Party: Republican

Term: 1861-1865

Vice President: Hannibal Hamlin,
Andrew Johnson

Abraham Lincoln, the backwoodsman from Illinois, came to the presidency during the "years of crisis" and the Civil War.

Lincoln was elected president with only 40 percent of the popular votes but an electoral majority. His first duties were to prepare for war. He called for volunteers on April 15, 1861, and on July 21, Bull Run was fought.

He was a Republican and his years in office were to do much to solidify that party's image as he rallied most of the northern Democrats to the Union cause.

He saw victory and defeat as the North and South struggled in a great Civil War. Through it all, he stood firm on the need for the people to be united as one nation.

Lincoln issued his famous Emancipation Proclamation on Jan. 1, 1863. It declared that slaves in the confederacy were forever free.

The President's Gettysburg Address showed that he had high hopes of reuniting the nation when he said, "this nation under God, shall have a new birth of freedom and that government of the people, by the people, for people shall not perish from the Earth."

Lincoln was assassinated on April 14, 1865 at Ford's Theatre in Washington by John Wilkes Booth. He was buried at Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, IL.