

QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Queen Elizabeth II was the longest-reigning British monarch in history. She was 70 years on the throne.

Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Windsor was born on April 21st, 1926, in London. Her parents were Prince Albert, Duke of York, and Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon. She had a younger sister, Margaret Rose. Both were educated at home by tutors.

When Elizabeth was born, no one imagined that she would become queen one day. After Elizabeth's uncle Edward VIII abdicated the throne, Elizabeth's father became King George VI. This event changed the course of her life and made her a direct heir to the Crown.

Elizabeth met her husband Philip in 1934. They got married in 1947 and had four children: Charles, Anne, Andrew and Edward.

Her father suffered from lung cancer and died when Elizabeth was 25 years old. She then became queen. Elizabeth was crowned on June 2nd, 1953, becoming Queen Elizabeth II. It was the first coronation to be shown on television and about 20 million people watched it.

As a constitutional monarch, Elizabeth did not make any political decisions, nor did she reveal her political views. She had a strong sense of duty and kept her royal obligations throughout her reign. She visited hospitals, schools, factories and organisations and she went regularly on official State visits abroad.

Elizabeth was known for her love of dogs, particularly corgis. She owned more than 30 corgis. She also liked attending horse events, reading mysteries, and doing crossword puzzles.

Queen Elizabeth II died peacefully on September 8th, 2022 at Balmoral Castle, in Scotland. She was 96 years old.



A. Match the words on the left with their definitions on the right

| | |
|------------------|---|
| 1) monarch | a) something that you have to do |
| 2) throne | b) to renounce a throne |
| 3) to abdicate | c) a king or queen |
| 4) heir | d) to become king or queen |
| 5) to be crowned | e) a person who will receive something from a predecessor |
| 6) duty | f) a special chair used by a king or queen |

B. Say if the following sentences are True or False.

1. Elizabeth II was Queen of the United Kingdom for 90 years.
2. She was born on April 21st, 1926.
3. Elizabeth studied in Oxford.
4. Elizabeth became queen when she was 25 years old.
5. Her coronation was watched by about 10 million people. -
6. Queen Elizabeth belonged to a political party.
7. She liked going to horse events.
8. Elizabeth was 96 years old when she died.

C. Complete the text using the words in the box.

| | | |
|---------|---------|------|
| married | had | died |
| was | crowned | was |

Queen Elizabeth II _____ the longest-reigning British monarch in history.

She _____ Prince Philip and they _____ four children. She was _____ in 1953. Her coronation was an important event at the time.

Elizabeth kept her duties until the end. She _____ in 2022 at her Scottish residence Balmoral Castle, where she was _____ by her family. She _____ 96 years old.

