



Theodor Seuss Geisel

March 2, 1904 - September 24, 1991

La Jolla, California

Theodor Seuss Geisel - better known to generations of American children as Dr. Seuss - author and illustrator whose rhythmic nonsense reshaped early reading, died in La Jolla, California, on September 24, 1991. He was eighty-seven. Born March 2, 1904, in Springfield, Massachusetts, he studied at Dartmouth and Oxford, drew advertising and political cartoons, then turned the spare vocabulary of beginner books into mischief that sounded like music.

The Cat in the Hat, Green Eggs and Ham, Horton Hears a Who!, and How the Grinch Stole Christmas taught phonics without preaching and satire without cruelty. He insisted that rhyme could carry moral freight - fairness, curiosity, environmental care - while never letting a page feel like a lecture. Editors remembered a draftsman who reworked layouts until every sneaker and whisker landed on the beat.

La Jolla's coastal light framed his late studio years after decades of New York magazine work and wartime documentary service. He died after illness at home, leaving shelves that still migrate from kindergarten carpets to Broadway without losing the Springfield cadence.

He died in La Jolla on September 24, 1991. Teachers still open the first day of reading with a Seuss dare to try one bite.

Geisel's gift was joyful literacy - proving that restraint in word count could expand a child's imagination. Notice Nearby keeps the death date so September 24 remembers the Massachusetts draftsman who taught America to read aloud for fun.

Services

Died in La Jolla, California, September 24, 1991. Children's author and illustrator known as Dr. Seuss; Springfield, Massachusetts native.

NN-OBIT-2026-H156

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