

CARY GRANT

b. January 18, 1904 – d. November 29, 1986

“I pretended to be somebody I wanted to be until finally I became that person. Or he became me.”



One of Hollywood’s most distinguished actors, Cary Grant finished behind only Humphrey Bogart as the American Film Institute’s Second Greatest Male Movie Star of All Time. Grant starred in over 70 films and earned two Academy Award nominations for Best Actor. In 1970, Grant won the Academy Award for Lifetime Achievement.

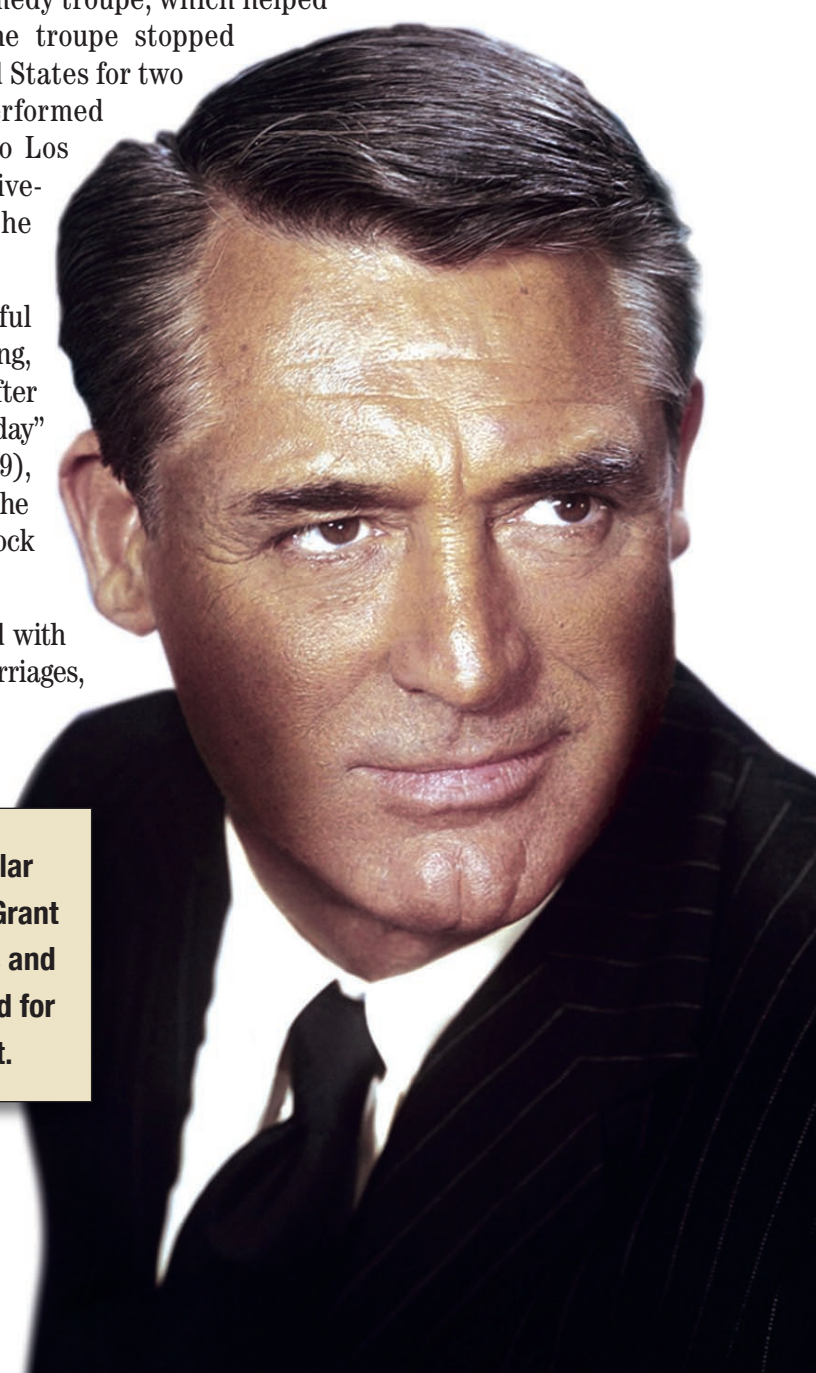
Originally Archibald Alexander Leach, Grant was born in Bristol, England, as the only child in an impoverished family. When Grant was 9 years old, his mother was institutionalized.

Grant left school at age 14 and joined the Bob Pender comedy troupe, which helped develop his dancing and acrobatic skills. In 1920, the troupe stopped performing in small English towns and toured the United States for two years. Grant decided to stay in New York, and in 1927, he performed in the musical “Golden Dawn.” In 1931, Grant moved to Los Angeles to pursue a career in film. When he signed a five-year contract with Paramount, the studio recommended he change his name to Cary Grant.

Grant debuted in “This is the Night” (1932), but “The Awful Truth” (1937) made him a star. Handsome, witty and charming, Grant succeeded in creating a unique onscreen character. After starring in hits such as “Bringing up Baby” (1938), “Holiday” (1938), “Gunga Din” (1939), “Only Angels Have Wings” (1939), “His Girl Friday” (1940), “My Favorite Wife” (1940) and “The Philadelphia Story” (1940), as well as three Alfred Hitchcock films, Grant retired in 1966 as a megastar.

Even though Grant married five women and fathered a child with his fourth wife, he was sexually active with men. Between marriages, Grant often resided with fellow actor Randolph Scott.

Grant died of a stroke on November 29, 1986.



One of the most popular actors of his era, Cary Grant starred in over 70 films and won an Academy Award for Lifetime Achievement.

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