

DIED

Shirley Temple

The biggest little star

By Margaret O'Brien

I met Shirley Temple on Valentine's Day in 1945. To this day, I've never forgotten it. I was in red, she was in black, and we enjoyed a wonderful dinner together. We didn't immediately become best friends, but every winter, my husband and I would send a Christmas card to Shirley, and she and her family would send one back, so we kept in touch that way.

She was just lovely—a very, very sweet girl. My husband always had a crush on Shirley, but he ended up with me instead. It wasn't too bad, but you have to remember, there will never be another Shirley Temple. She will always be Shirley Temple in people's minds, and they'll always be showing her movies, so new generations will know who she was. Sometimes people put a stamp on the world, and Shirley certainly did.

So many times, people think child actors have a terrible life after the movies, but Shirley went on to have a wonderful life and family and career as the U.S. ambassador to Ghana and later Czechoslovakia, so it doesn't all end tragically. It helped that we both had wonderful parents who saw that we stayed on the right path.

I'd see her at functions throughout the years, and we'd say hello and talk about our families—she had married and had started on a different career by then, so we didn't keep in touch through the movie world. We kept in touch through the friendship world, and I've never forgotten our first meeting. That's why I have always kept her in my heart on Valentine's Day, never more so than this year.

O'Brien made her screen debut at age 4 in 1941 and went on to act in such films as Meet Me in St. Louis and The Canterville Ghost

Temple, photographed on her eighth birthday in 1936, died on Feb. 10 at age 85

VISIT LIFE.com
FOR MORE
SHIRLEY TEMPLE
PHOTOS

TEMPLE: ALFRED EISENSTEADT—TIME LIFE PICTURES/GETTY IMAGES; KINER: GETTY IMAGES

RECALLED

By Toyota, 1.9 million of its top-selling **Prius hybrids** because of a software glitch that could cause the car to stall. The Japanese automaker says no accidents related to the issue have been reported.

DIED

Maxine Kumin, 88, prolific poet who won a Pulitzer Prize in 1973 for *Up Country*, about life on her New Hampshire farm. In 1981 she was named consultant in poetry to the Library of Congress, now called U.S. poet laureate.

SUSPENDED

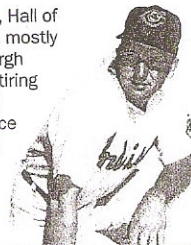
By first-term Democratic governor Jay Inslee, **capital punishment** in Washington State, because of what he termed a lack of "equal justice" in sentencing. Washington has nine inmates on death row.

CONVICTED

C. Ray Nagin, former two-term mayor of New Orleans, on corruption charges for accepting payoffs for city contracts. Nagin, who was mayor during and after Hurricane Katrina, could face up to 20 years in prison.

DIED

Ralph Kiner, 91, Hall of Fame outfielder, mostly with the Pittsburgh Pirates. After retiring at 32 he gained fame as the voice of the New York Mets, starting with their first season in 1962.



DIED

Robert A. Dahl, 98, political scientist and author. In four decades as a professor at Yale, he established himself as a leading authority on the theory and practice of democratic government.