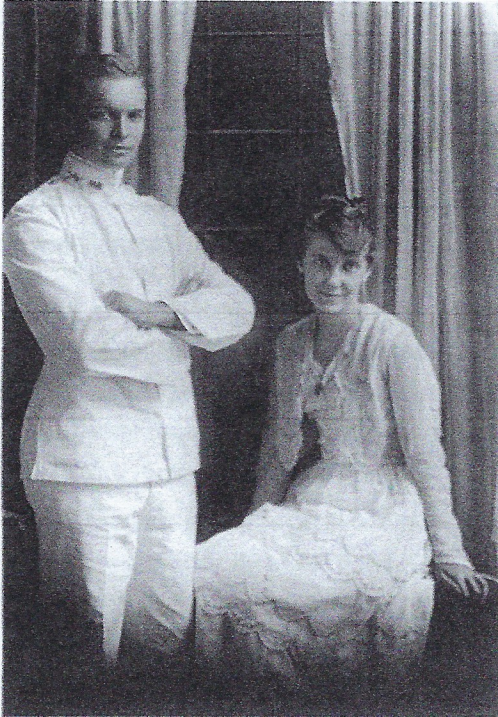


Leader's Guide and Member's Handout



Ike and Mamie Eisenhower married on July 1, 1916.

"I Like Ike"

Written by DeLores Walden, Kansas FCE Vice President

2027 Kansas FCE Education Program Year

Educational Goals:

- To learn more about our 34th President of the USA
- To Educate others about "IKE."
- To enhance your leadership skills, use National FCE FCL #ED1021 "True Leadership."

Community Activities:

- Prepare displays for libraries and fairs
- Write newspaper articles
- Present the lesson to another group

Childhood and Early Life of David Dwight Eisenhower

David Dwight Eisenhower was born on October 14, 1890, in Denison, Texas. He was the son of David Jacob Eisenhower (1863-1942), a college-educated engineer, and his mother, Ida Elizabeth Stover Eisenhower (1862-1946), who was of German Protestant ancestry. David and Ida met while studying at Lane University, Leocompton, Kansas, and were married on September 23, 1885.

The Eisenhower family lived in Texas from 1889 to 1892 and returned to Kansas with only \$24 and the hope of finding work. They settled in a Mennonite community in Abilene, Kansas. Dwight was the third of seven sons. Soon after birth, his mother reversed his first two names, David and Dwight, because there were already two family members named David. When Dwight was 7 years old, he was a bright, scrappy little devil. He had yellow hair, bright blue eyes, and a lopsided grin that got him in a lot of trouble.

As a freshman in high school, Dwight fell in a stable yard, injured his knee, and developed blood poisoning that extended from his leg into his groin. Doctors recommended amputating his leg, but Dwight refused. He told his brother Edgar that he would rather die than lose his leg. Edgar stayed by his bedside till Dwight's leg healed.

Dwight graduated from Abilene High in 1909 and worked for a year to support his brother's college education. At the time, Abilene was a lively frontier town known for its saloons, dance halls, and gambling establishments. The famous lawman Wild Bill Hickok once served as the town's second marshal.

Education and Early Military

Leaving his mother in tears as he entered the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York. West Point didn't require tuition, making it an attractive opportunity for students with limited financial means. He was an average student and graduated in 1915. Played football for only two years because of a knee injury.

Second Lieutenant Dwight was sent to San Antonio, Texas. While stationed there, he met Mary "Mamie" Geneva Doud (1896-1979). They first met on Valentine's Day and married on July 1, 1916, earlier than originally planned because of the outbreak of World War I. The couple had two sons. Their first son, Doud Dwight, was born in 1917 and died of Scarlet Fever in 1921. John Sheldon Doud Eisenhower was born in 1922 and died at the age of 91 in 2013. John's son, David Dwight Eisenhower II, married Julie Nixon, Richard Nixon's daughter.

The Eisenhower family name was originally spelled "Eisenhauer" in German. Eisenhower was the English spelling after the family settled in Pennsylvania. Ike was a nickname for 4 of the sons. The nickname was intended as an abbreviation of their last name, though Dwight was the only one who kept the nickname throughout his life.

Dwight's mother had a collection of history books, and he became interested in military history. His favorite school subjects included arithmetic and spelling. A sect of Mennonites and Jehovah's Witnesses was taught in the home. Ike was baptized in the Presbyterian Church in 1953 at the age of 63.

34th President of the United States

In 1943, some political leaders began suggesting that Eisenhower, who had shown many leadership abilities, might become the U.S. President. He told one that he could not imagine wanting to be the U.S. President. In 1945, Harry S. Truman told Dwight that if he desired, he would help General Dwight win the

1948 election. Truman offered to run as his running mate on the Democratic ticket. Dwight had not named a party affiliation. Dwight was 66 years old and was considered too old to be the US President. Eisenhower met Richard Nixon in July of 1950 while they were guests of President Herbert Hoover at a small lunch party.

He resigned from NATO in June 1952. He retired from active duty in 1952 and then became the Republican Party nominee for U.S. President. He won that contest on November 4, 1952.

"I Like Ike" was the campaign's simple slogan. He selected Richard Nixon as his vice president running mate. Nixon had a strong anti-communist stance as well as a youthful appearance.

Dwight defeated Democratic candidate Adlai Stevenson II by a large margin. His electoral votes were 442, while Adlai's number was 89. This was the first time in 20 years that there had been a Republican as U.S. President. Dwight was re-elected in 1956 with electoral votes of 457 to 73.

Important developments occurred during Eisenhower's presidency, showing his leadership:

- Justices appointed to the Supreme Court of the United States under President Eisenhower: Earl Warren, 1953; John Marshall Harlan II, 1954; William J. Brennan, 1956; Charles Evans Whittaker, 1957 to 1962; and Potter Stewart, 1958.
- States admitted to the union were Alaska on January 3, 1950 (49th state) and Hawaii on August 21, 1959 (50th state).
- Held the first pre-inaugural cabinet meeting in history
- First president to fly in Air Force One
- Was criticized for many items during his presidency
- Ended the Korean War
- First president to be denied a third term
- 1951 Amendment to the U.S. Constitution set a two-term limit to the presidency
- Population grew from 155 million to 179 million
- Minimum wage was \$1
- Congress passed a law designed to outlaw the American Communist Party
- Eisenhower's cabinet was made up of corporate executives, labor leaders, journalists, and experienced government administrators.

President Truman issued the 1948 Executive Order 9981 to desegregate the Armed Forces. President Eisenhower stated in his First State of the Union Address in February 1953 that segregation would be ended in the District of Columbia, the Federal Government, and the armed Forces.

A tank training center was commanded by Dwight during World War I. He was promoted to captain and received the Distinguished Service Medal. He served in the United States Army for 37 years.

Dwight was an avid golfer, bridge player, and painter in oils. Painted about 260 paintings in the last twenty years of his life

Named the Most Widely Admired People of the 20th century, World Gold Hall of Fame, and Hall of Great Westerners.

Post presidency 1961-1969

After the presidency, Ike and Mamie moved to a working farm near Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Dwight did not completely drop out of politics. He spoke at the 1964 Republican National Convention in San Francisco. Dwight praised his former vice president Richard Nixon as a "day for rejoicing" when Nixon was inaugurated as President. Dwight became president of Columbia University and later was Supreme Commander of NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization).

Numerous places and items were later named in his honor, including Highways, a tunnel, schools, Eisenhower dollars, tribute albums, a national memorial in Washington, DC, a fish hatchery, and a fort.

Health

President Eisenhower was a chain smoker since his days at West Point. He had a serious heart attack in 1955, which required six weeks in the hospital. Later, he developed an aneurysm and experienced a mild stroke in 1957. He also suffered from Crohn's disease and had to have surgery. He stopped smoking and made changes in his diet, but he still drank alcohol. There were seven heart attacks from 1955 up to his death. After death, an autopsy revealed an undiagnosed adrenal pheochromocytoma (benign adrenaline-secreting tumor). He also had gall bladder surgery to remove sixteen gallstones.

Death

Dwight D. Eisenhower died on March 28, 1969, at Walter Reed Army Medical Center from congestive heart failure at the age of 78. His last words were "I've always loved my wife, my children, and my grandchildren, and I've always loved my country. I want to go. God, take me."

A special train carried his body to his final resting place in Abilene, Kansas. Eisenhower was buried in his World War II uniform and with his medals. He is buried alongside his son Doud and wife Mamie, who died in 1979.

Favorites of Ike's included-

Sport: golf, football, and fishing

Bible Passage: Psalm 127:1, 2 Chronicles 7:14, and Psalm 33:12

Books: Bible, American Western novels, and the works of Shakespeare

Foods: Beef stew, Steak rare, Quail hash, vegetable soup, English Rice Pudding, Deep Dish Apple Pie, Prune Whip

Flowers: Carnations and Roses

Hobbies: Painting, bridge, and cooking

Music: America the Beautiful, Jeannie with the Light Brown Hair, I Love to Tell the Story, Silent Night, and Abide with Me

Resources

1. "General Ike" A Biography of Dwight D. Eisenhower by Alden Hatch
2. Wikipedia "The Free Encyclopedia."
- 3 National FCE Leadership #ED1021 "True Leadership."

Recipes for 3 of Ike's favorite foods

Quail Hash

Ingredients-

Quail; Good chicken stock; salt and pepper; flour

Put into a saucepan whatever number of quail seems sufficient for the company. Cover well with stock. Cook slowly for 10 to 15 minutes or until the meat can be removed from the bones easily. Remove from the burner, strip and dice the meat, and season to taste. Add more stock if necessary to cover well. With a small amount of additional stock, make gravy with flour (browned or not, as you choose) and pour it over diced quail. Cover and Simmer 10 minutes longer.

Old Fashioned Beef Stew

Ingredients-

2 pounds of stewing meat; 1 pound small Irish potatoes; 1 bunch small carrots; $\frac{3}{4}$ pound small onions; 2 fresh tomatoes; assorted spices, salt, pepper, Accent; 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ pints beef stock

Stew the meat until tender. Add the vegetables, thyme, bay leaves, and garlic to a cloth bag. When vegetables are done, drain off 1 cup of stock from the stew and thicken slightly with beef roux. Pour back into the stew and let it simmer for $\frac{1}{2}$ hour.

Mamie's Million Dollar Fudge

Ingredients-

4 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups sugar; pinch of salt; 2 tablespoons of butter; 1 tall can evaporated milk

12 ounces semi-sweet chocolate bits; 12 ounces German-sweet chocolate, 1 pint marshmallow cream; 2 cups chopped nuts

Boil the sugar, salt, butter, and evaporated milk together for 6 minutes. Put chocolate bits and German chocolate, marshmallow cream, and nutmeats in a bowl. Pour the boiling syrup over the ingredients. Beat until the chocolate is melted and then pour it into a pan. Let it stand for a few hours before cutting. Remember, it is better the second day. Store in a tin box.