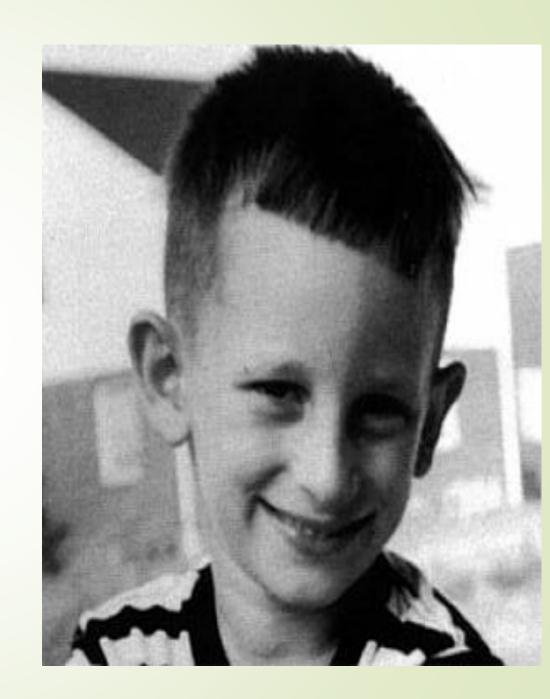
Steven Spielberg

Early Years

- Born in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1946
 - Best Qualities from his parents
 - ► Father Engineer
 - Mother Concert Pianist
- Family Moved to Arizona before he was 10.
- Jewish Family. Grandparents immigrated from the Ukraine around 1900.
 - Spielberg also said he suffered from acts of anti-Semitic prejudice and bullying: "In high school, I got smacked and kicked around. Two bloody noses. It was horrible."



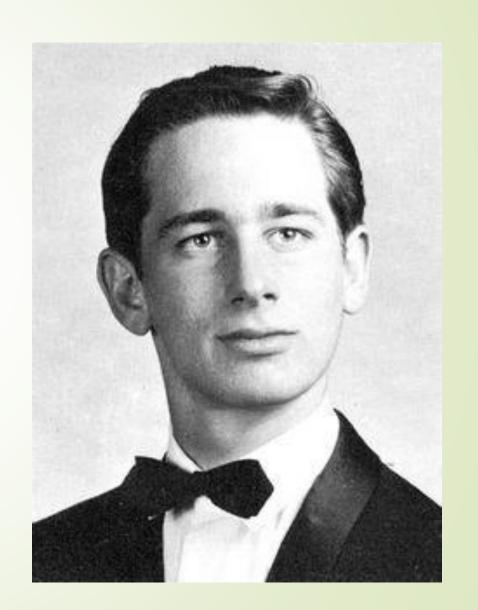
Teenage Years



- In his early teens Spielberg started to make films with his sister.
 - Used to show them at his house and charge admission and sell popcorn.
- At 16 he shot a film called *Firelight* about aliens invading a small town.
 - The film was 140 minutes long
 - Would later become Close Encounters of the Third Kind
 - Cost \$500 to make.
- The film was screened at the local movie theater in Scottsdale Arizona
 - Movie made back the money it cost to film.

Failed Film Student

- Parents divorced before his senior year. Moved to California to attend his senior year. Stayed after graduation.
- Spielberg applied to several film schools including USC.
 - He was denied due to his C average in school
- Attended Long Beach State
- "Internship" at Universal
- Amblin



Early Career



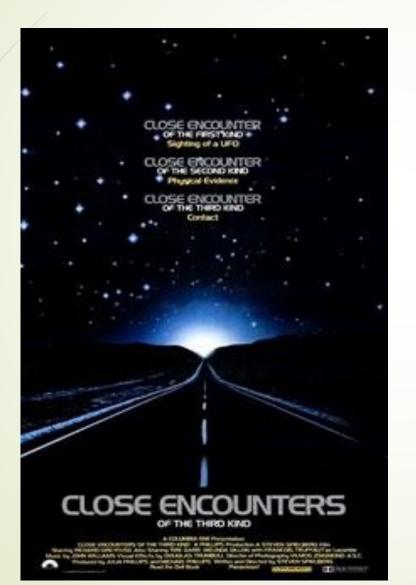
- At 22 was offered a 7-year contract with Universal.
 - Youngest ever to be offered a longterm deal
- Started directing television shows like Night Gallery, Columbo, Marcus Welby M.D.
- First success was 1971 Duel
 - Telefilm about a traveling salesman harassed by a truck driver
- The Sugarland Express
 - Failed financially but Spielberg impressed studio heads.

Jaws

- Universal acquired the rights to the Peter Benchley best seller Jaws.
- Gave the film to Spielberg
- Many issues with filming. Went over budget.
- Came out in the summer of 1975.
- Went on to become the highest grossing film of all time (later broken).
 - \$470 million for a fil with a 9 million budget (cost 12).
- Summer Blockbuster



Close Encounters



Third Kind was released in 1977.

Spielberg's first academy award nomination for Best Director.

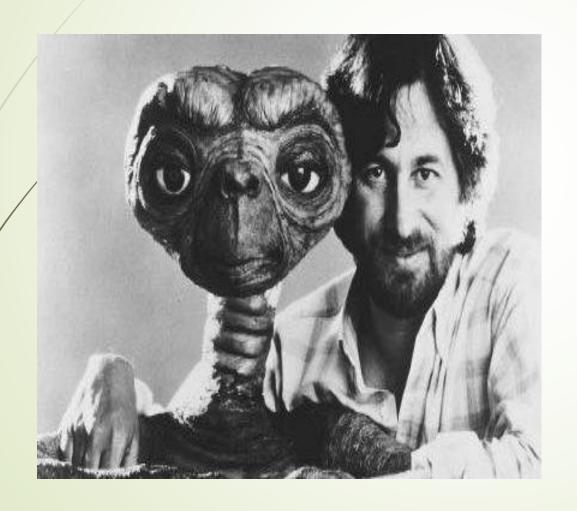
Financial and critical success.

Raiders of the Lost Ark

- In 1981 Spielberg directed Raiders of the Lost Ark.
- Film based on cliffhangers
- Nominated for Best Picture, and Spielberg received his 2nd Best Director nomination.
- 3 sequels and a television show



E.T.



- A year later, Spielberg returned to the science fiction genre with E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial. It was the story of a young boy and the alien he befriends, who was accidentally left behind by his companions and is attempting to return home.
- E.T. went on to become the topgrossing film of all time.
 - Has made over 1 billion dollars
- It was also nominated for nine Academy Awards including Best Picture and Best Director.

The Color Purple

- Spielberg was criticized for not being able to make a "serious" film.
- 1984 the Color Purple
 - 11 Academy Award Nominations
 - He was not nominated
 - Film did not win 1 award
 - Spike Lee calls this the most blatant example of racism in the history of Hollywood.



"Down Period"



- For about a decade Spielberg did not repeat the successes of his first decade as a film maker.
- Ugly Divorce
- Highlights:
 - Empire of the Sun
 - Hook
 - Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade
- People thought he was losing his touch

1993 is a Good Year

- 2 films that would establish him as the most important director in Hollywood
 - Jurassic Park
 - ■914 million.
 - Changed CGI effects forever
 - Schindler's List
 - ■12 Academy Awards nominations
 - Best Picture
 - Best Director (finally!)





Movie Mogul



- In 1994 Spielberg became a movie mogul opening his own studio called Dreamworks.
 - Jeffrey Katzenberg
 - David Geffin
- Studio has made Spielberg one of the richest men in Hollywood.

Saving Private Ryan

 In 1998 Spielberg won Best Director for his World War 2 film Saving Private Ryan.

In total Spielberg has been nominated 7 times for Best Director, winning 2 times.



Family Life



- Married 2 times to Amy Irving (1985-1989). Kate Capshaw (1991-Today)
- He has 6 Children, 1 with Amy Irving, 3 with Kate Capshaw, and 2 adopted with Capshaw.

Greatest of All Time?

- In 2005 Empire Magazine named Spielberg the Greatest Director of All Time. One of many publications to do so.
 - **■** IMDB
 - The Top Tens
- His Impact on modern film is hard to quantify.
 - Very definitely in the conversation.

