

Schulz & Peanuts Time Line

1920s

November 26, 1922 🌟 Charles Monroe Schulz was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, as the only child of Dena and Carl Schulz, a hard-working St. Paul barber 🌟 An uncle nicknamed him "Sparky" after Sparkplug, a horse in the *Barney Google* comic strip



1920s 🌟 His kindergarten teacher at Mattocks School in St. Paul told him, "Some day, Charles, you are going to be an artist"

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1930s

1930s 🌟 As a boy, Schulz was interested in comics, especially *Popeye* and the characters created by Walt Disney

1934 🌟 The Schulz family was given a black and white dog that was the inspiration for Snoopy; his name was Spike



1937 🌟 Schulz's first published drawing, a sketch of Spike, was included in the newspaper comics feature *Believe it or Not* by Robert Ripley

1939/40 🌟 Schulz enrolled in a correspondence cartoon course with Federal Schools (later known as Art Instruction Schools) during his senior year in high school

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1940s

1940 🌟 Schulz graduated from high school 🌟 The drawings he contributed to the school yearbook were not included in the publication

1943 🌟 At age 20, Schulz was drafted into the Army. While in basic training his mother died of cancer 🌟 Schulz served as a machine-gun squad leader in Germany, France, and Austria. He later wrote, "The Army taught me all I needed to know about loneliness"



1945 🌟 Discharged from the Army, Schulz returned to St. Paul 🌟 Schulz began working for his alma mater Art Instruction Schools as an instructor



1947 🌟 Schulz's career as a cartoonist began with the publication of his panel cartoon, *Li'l Folks*, in the local newspaper, the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*

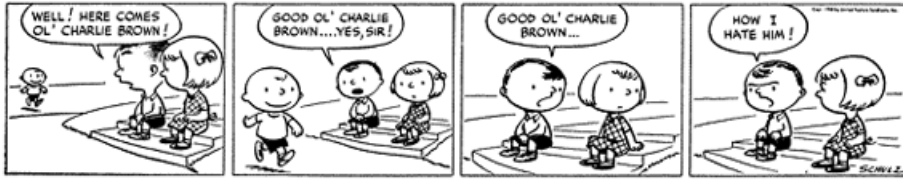
1948-1950 🌟 Schulz sold 17 panel cartoons to *The Saturday Evening Post*

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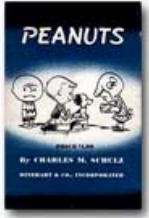
1950S

1950 🐿️ After several rejections, Schulz sold his *Li'l Folks* strip to United Feature Syndicate
🐿️ They renamed his strip **Peanuts**, a title he never liked

October 2, 1950 🐿️ **Peanuts** debuted in seven newspapers 🐿️ The syndicate paid Schulz \$90 for his first month of strips



First **Peanuts** strip ~ October 2, 1950



1951 🐿️ Schulz married Joyce Halverson 🐿️ After a brief move to Colorado Springs, Colorado, the young family returned to Minneapolis

1952 🐿️ The first Sunday **Peanuts** page was published; the strip was then featured in over 40 U.S. newspapers 🐿️ The first book collection, *Peanuts*, was also published



1955 🐿️ Kodak became the first product sponsor for **Peanuts**, using the characters in a camera handbook 🐿️ Schulz won his first Reuben Award from the National Cartoonists Society

1958 🐿️ Schulz left Minnesota and moved with his wife and five children to Sebastopol, California 🐿️ **Peanuts** appeared in 355 U.S. and 40 foreign newspapers 🐿️ Hungerford Plastics created the first plastic **Peanuts** figures, including Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Linus & Lucy 🐿️ Yale University named Schulz "Cartoonist of the Year"

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1960S

1960 🐿️ Hallmark created the first **Peanuts** greeting cards 🐿️ **Peanuts** art and animation was used in a popular Ford Falcon advertising campaign

1962 🐿️ Determined Productions published *Happiness is a Warm Puppy*, which made it to the New York Times best-seller list 🐿️ **Peanuts** was named "Best Humor Strip of the Year" by the National Cartoonists Society



1964 🐿️ Schulz became the first cartoonist to be awarded two Reubens by the National Cartoonists Society

1965 🐿️ **Peanuts** featured on cover of *Time* magazine
🐿️ The first animated television special, *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, won a Peabody Award and an Emmy for outstanding children's programming

1966 🐿️ Schulz's father, Carl, died while visiting in California 🐿️ A fire later destroyed Schulz's Sebastopol studio



Peanuts ~ September 19, 1966

1967 🐿️ The stage musical *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* opened off Broadway; it

has since become the most-produced musical in America

May 24, 1967 🏆 California Governor Ronald Reagan greeted the cartoonist at the State Capitol in observance of the legislature-proclaimed "Charles Schulz Day"

April 28, 1969 🏆 Grand Opening of the **Redwood Empire Ice Arena** in Santa Rosa, California, starring the 1968 Olympic Gold Medallist Peggy Fleming and the Vince Guaraldi trio



May 1969 🏆 Charlie Brown and Snoopy accompanied astronauts on Apollo X



Peanuts ~ March 14, 1969

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1970s

1972 🏆 Charles and Joyce Schulz divorced

1973 🏆 Schulz and Jean Forsyth Clyde married 🏆 Schulz received Emmy Award for writing his tenth television special, *A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving*



1974 🏆 Schulz presided as the Grand Marshal of the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, California



Peanuts ~ January 1, 1974

1975 🏆 **Peanuts** celebrated 25 years 🏆 It was carried in approximately 1,480 U.S. and 175 foreign newspapers with 90,000,000 readers 🏆 The television special *You're a Good Sport, Charlie Brown* won an Emmy

1978 🏆 The International Pavilion of Humor in Montreal named Schulz "Cartoonist of the Year"

1979 🏆 *Happy Birthday, Charlie Brown* published by Lee Mendelson and Schulz

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1980s

1980 🏆 *Charlie Brown, Snoopy, and Me* published by Schulz and R. Smith Kiliper

🏆 Television special *Life Is a Circus, Charlie Brown* received an Emmy



January 1983 🏆 **Snoopy's Gallery & Gift Shop** opened in Santa Rosa, California

1983 🏆 Television special *What Have We Learned, Charlie Brown?* won a Peabody Award 🏆 Camp Snoopy opened at Knott's Berry Farm in California

1984 🏆 **Peanuts** qualified for a place in the *Guinness Book of World Records* after being sold to the 2,000th newspaper

1985 🌟 You Don't Look 35, Charlie Brown published 🌟 The Oakland Museum of California opened the anniversary exhibit, *The Graphic Art of Charles Schulz*

1986 🌟 Schulz inducted into Cartoonist Hall of Fame by the Museum of Cartoon Art

1989 🌟 Rheta Grimsley Johnson published the biography *Good Grief: The Story of Charles M. Schulz*

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1990S

1990 🌟 The French government named Schulz "Commander of Arts and Letters," and the *Snoopy in Fashion* exhibit opened at the Louvre 🌟 *This Is Your Childhood, Charlie Brown—Children in American Culture* exhibit opened at The National Museum of History in Washington, D.C.

1992 🌟 *Snoopy, The Masterpiece* exhibit opened at the Montreal Museum of Fine Art 🌟 Schulz awarded the "Order of Merit" from the Italian Minister of Culture

1995 🌟 The 45th anniversary of **Peanuts** was marked by exhibit *Around the Moon and Home Again: A Tribute to the Art of Charles M. Schulz* at the Space Center in Houston



June 28, 1996 🌟 Schulz got his own star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame

October 16, 1997 🌟 Schulz and wife Jeannie announced they would give \$1 million toward the construction of a D-Day memorial to be placed in Virginia 🌟 World premiere of *Peanuts Gallery* by composer Ellen Taaffe Zwilich held at Carnegie Hall



Peanuts ~ March 16, 1997

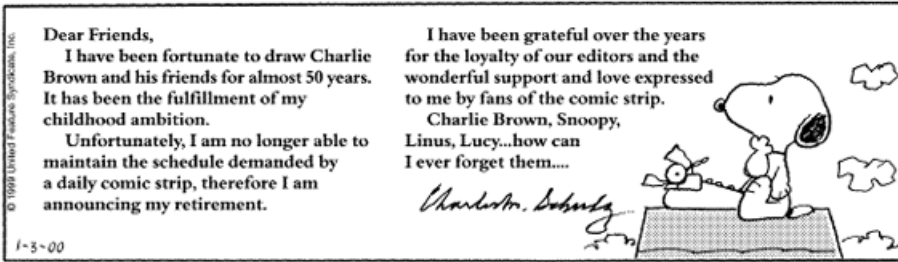
1999 🌟 Schulz's *Peanuts: A Golden Celebration* published 🌟 *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* opened in a new production on Broadway 🌟 **Peanuts** appeared in more than 2,600 newspapers worldwide, and over 20,000 products had been developed to date

December 14, 1999 🌟 Schulz announced his retirement due to health problems

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2000S

January 3, 2000 🌟 Charles Schulz bade a fond farewell to all his readers in the final daily **Peanuts** newspaper strip



Peanuts ~ January 3, 2000

February 7, 2000 🐿️ California lawmakers declared Sunday, February 13, as "Charles M. Schulz Day" to coincide with the final **Peanuts** Sunday strip

February 12, 2000 🐿️ Charles Schulz died Saturday evening in his home in Santa Rosa of complications from colon cancer; he was 77 years old

February 13, 2000 🐿️ The final Sunday **Peanuts** strip appeared in newspapers around the world

May 2000 🐿️ Posthumous awarding of the Milton Caniff Lifetime Achievement Award by the National Cartoonists Society



AP photo/Santa Rosa Press Democrat

June 2000 🐿️ Ground breaking of Charles M. Schulz Museum and Research Center in Santa Rosa, across from Redwood Empire Ice Arena (Snoopy's Home Ice)

May 17, 2001 🐿️ First Day of Issue of the U.S. Postal Service **Peanuts** stamp at Charles Schulz's Redwood Empire Ice Arena in Santa Rosa, California

June 7, 2001 🐿️ Posthumous awarding of the [Congressional Gold Medal](#) by the United States Congress to Schulz's family

August 17, 2002 🐿️ Grand Opening of the Schulz Museum!

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Don't miss the Schulz Museum's Introductory Film in the Video Nook at the end of the Great Hall!

[View the Introductory Film online!](#)

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