



Photo: Internet Movie Database

Anne Baxter

Michigan City, LaPorte County

May 7, 1923 – December 12, 1985

The granddaughter of world-renowned architect, Frank Lloyd Wright, Anne Baxter was born in Michigan City, Indiana, on May 7, 1923. When she was eleven, her parents moved to New York City, which encouraged her to consider acting as a vocation. By the time she was 13 she had already appeared in a stage production that had garnered rave reviews. The play helped her gain entrance to an exclusive acting school; and, in 1937, she made her first foray to Hollywood to test the waters in the film industry where she was thought to be too young for a film career. She returned to New York, where she continued to act in Broadway and summer theatres along the East Coast.

Two years later, Anne returned to California where she took a screen test which was seen by the moguls of Twentieth Century-Fox. She was then signed to a seven-year contract. She then dedicated her entire life career to acting. In 1971, she told an interviewer, "Acting is not what I do. It's what I am. It's my permanent, built-in cathedral." Over her fifty-year career, she would add almost one hundred acting credits in both film and TV. In 1946, Anne portrayed Sophie MacDonald in *The Razor's Edge*, for which she was nominated for and won an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress. In 1950, she landed the role of Eve Harrington in *All About Eve*, where she received her second Oscar nomination for Best Actress in a Leading Role.

After several films through the 1950s, she landed one of her most famous roles as Queen Nefretiri in Cecil B. DeMille's *The Ten Commandments* opposite Charlton Heston and Yul Brynner. In her later years, she turned to television roles and became a staple of two series, *East of Eden* (1981) and *Hotel* (1983). On December 12, 1985, Anne died of a stroke in New York. She was 62.

- For more information about Anne Baxter, go to: http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0000879/?ref=fn_al_nm_1.
- For more information about *Writing Her Story*, go to: <http://www.in.gov/icw/2440.htm>.

Additional and more detailed references available at the end of Women's History Month

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