



Thomas Edison the Great Inventor

Early Years and Family

Thomas Edison was born in Ohio, America, in February 1847. As a young child he had hearing difficulties due to scarlet fever, and soon he was deaf. Edison was the seventh child of parents, Samuel and Nancy. Thomas was the youngest child and had six older siblings. His mom was a teacher therefore he was homeschooled.

How His Business Started

As a teen Edison began selling sweets, snacks and newspapers on a railway train. One day while working Edison saw out of a window, a little three year-old standing in front of the train. As soon as Edison could, he jumped out of the train and saved the child. The child's father was a businessman and gave Edison an opportunity to expand the business he had.

Becoming Famous

Edison's first invention was an outstanding machine which could produce sound that was recorded, was called The Phonograph. In 1877 he became enormously famous. Soon Edison improved the light bulb in 1879. He improved it by making it run for 13 hours straight, and it worked without oil or gas. To do this he created a chemistry laboratory in his basement. People soon named him the Wizard of Menlo Park.

The Last Part of His Life

Thomas Edison had two wives, one was called Mary Stillwell and sadly she died. Fortunately, Edison got married again to a lady called Minna Miller, altogether Edison had six children. Sadly Edison died of diabetes on October 18th 1931. He was 84 years old. He died at home in West Orange, New Jersey.

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