

# Boris Yeltsin dies at age 76

**1931** Born Feb 1, in Ural mountains

**1955** Graduates as an engineer from Ural Polytechnic Institute in **Sverdlovsk**, now Yekaterinburg

**1956** Marries **Naina Girina**. Two daughters – **Yelena** and **Tatiana**

**1961** Joins Communist Party

**1976** Becomes First Secretary of Sverdlovsk region

**1985** Brought to Moscow by Soviet leader **Mikhail Gorbachev**, soon named party chief for city

**1987** Ousted from Moscow post after making complaints about slow pace of Gorbachev's reforms

**1988** Dropped from Politburo. Gorbachev says Yeltsin will never be allowed back in politics

**1989** In stunning comeback, wins election to Soviet parliament with 89.6 percent of vote in Moscow

**1990** Appointed president of newly-independent Russian republic. Resigns from Communist Party

**JUN 1991** Becomes Russia's first democratically elected president

**AUG** Leads opposition to hardline coup against Gorbachev – climbs atop tank urging defence of democracy. Yeltsin emerges as country's most powerful and popular politician

**DEC** **Commonwealth of Independent States** replaces dissolved Soviet Union

**1992** Begins to dismantle 75 years of Communist economics by lifting price controls – cost of goods soars



**OCT 1993** Suspends parliament. Dozens killed as army crushes armed uprising led by sacked vice-president

**DEC** Wins approval for new constitution guaranteeing private property, free press, and human rights

**1994** Sends troops into Chechnya to crush separatist rebellion

**1996** Survives bitter power struggle to win second term. Undergoes quintuple heart bypass surgery

**1997-99** Authority undermined by ill health and unpredictable behaviour, including three separate sackings of entire Russian government

**MAY 1999** Survives impeachment vote in lower house of parliament

**DEC** Announces shock resignation – names prime minister **Vladimir Putin** as his successor

**2002** Says he has no regrets about role in breakup of Soviet Union, calling it necessary "to keep Russia whole"