

Lee Kuan Yew, 1923-2015

The founding father of modern Singapore and the city-state's first and longest serving prime minister, has died aged 91



KEY DATES IN LIFE OF LEE KUAN YEW

■ **Sep 16, 1923:** Born in then British colony of Singapore

■ **1942-45:** Education at Raffles College interrupted by Japanese occupation of Singapore during *World War II*

■ **1946:** Studies law at Cambridge University in England, where he is known as "Harry"

■ **1947:** Secretly marries fellow student *Kwa Geok Choo*

■ **1950:** Returns to Singapore

■ **1954:** Helps form *People's Action Party* (PAP) and becomes party's secretary-general

■ **1955:** Wins seat in legislative assembly and with his wife starts law firm Lee & Lee

■ **1959:** Becomes Singapore's first prime minister after PAP wins decisive election victory

■ **1959:** Britain grants Singapore self-governance in all matters except defence and foreign affairs

■ **1963:** Declares full independence from Britain. Singapore unites with Malaya to form *Federation of Malaysia*

■ **1965:** Singapore splits from Malaysia to become independent

■ **1990:** Resigns as prime minister – but continues to wield influence – after more than 20 years of spectacular economic growth in Singapore

■ **2004:** Son *Lee Hsein Loong* becomes prime minister

■ **2011:** Resigns from executive committee of PAP after poor election results

■ **Mar 23, 2015:** Lee dies six weeks after being hospitalized with severe pneumonia