

A portrait of Joan Rivers, a blonde woman with short hair, wearing a bright pink jacket over a black top, with her hands clasped in front of her chin. She is wearing large pearl earrings and a watch on her left wrist.

Today in History

September 4, 2014

▲ **Joan Rivers, U.S. comedienne and TV host well known for her legendary put-downs and acerbic comments on politicians and celebrities, died at age 81**

1965: Eminent physician, theologian, and medical missionary Dr Albert Schweitzer died

1970: Russian ballerina Natalia Makarova defected to the West

1985: British traffic warden Meta Davis retired, her place in musical history assured as the inspiration behind Paul McCartney's Lovely Rita, Meter Maid

1995: A Parisian boy stole 70,000 francs from his parents, spending it all at Disneyland Paris