

Gerald Ford

By Meg Leonard

Gerald Ford was our thirty-eighth president. Ford was born in Nebraska in 1913. He grew up in Michigan. Ford was a football star in college. He played at the University of Michigan. He went to law school at Yale. He was the assistant football coach of Yale's football team. Ford served in Congress for twenty-five years. Ford was not elected president. He got the job in an unusual way. Ford became President Nixon's vice president. He was not elected to this job. Nixon's first vice president stepped down from office. His name was Spiro Agnew. Nixon nominated Ford as the new vice president. Congress approved Ford. They followed the steps given in the twenty-fifth amendment to the Constitution. Less than a year later, Nixon stepped down as president. Nixon was accused of doing something wrong. Ford became the new president in 1974. It was the first time an appointed vice president became president. Ford had a big job. He faced many challenges. People had lost their faith in the president. The economy was bad. There were energy shortages. Ford worked hard to fix these problems. He pardoned President Nixon. This means that he forgave Nixon for his crimes. Ford was nominated for president in 1976. He lost the election to Jimmy Carter. Ford died in 2006.



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Questions

- _____ 1. Who was Gerald Ford?
 - A. the thirty-first president
 - B. the thirty-eighth president
 - C. the thirty-sixth president
 - D. the thirty-fourth president

- _____ 2. Which sport did Ford play very well?
 - A. baseball
 - B. football
 - C. hockey
 - D. basketball

- _____ 3. How long did Ford serve in Congress?
 - A. 10 years
 - B. 25 years
 - C. 20 years
 - D. 5 years

- _____ 4. Who was president just before Ford?
 - A. Spiro Agnew
 - B. Lyndon Johnson
 - C. Richard Nixon
 - D. Jimmy Carter

