Not-So-Dumb Blonde

It's hard not to love Goldie Hawn. Since appearing on *Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In*, Hawn has captured hearts and tickled funny bones with her charisma and infectious giggle. Her longevity in the industry is a testament to her versatility and talent.

Enhancing the Activity

- Advertise the activity by displaying photos of Goldie Hawn or her movies.
- Watch clips of Goldie Hawn appearing on Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In.
- Consider watching a Goldie Hawn film during or after the activity.
 Some good choices are <u>Private Benjamin</u> or <u>The First Wive's Club</u>.



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Early Life and Beginnings

Goldie Jeanne Hawn was born to Laura and Edward Hawn on November 21, 1945, in Washington, D.C. From a young age, Hawn showed a flair for performance. She began ballet and tap lessons at age three. Hawn danced professionally in her teens, including a stint at the Texas Pavilion of the New York World's Fair in 1964.

Despite her initial passion for dance, Hawn's beauty and comedic timing pointed her toward acting. Hawn attended American University briefly, but she dropped out and moved to California, hoping to get her big break. After arriving in Hollywood, Hawn landed a few small television roles. Her big break came in 1968 when she joined the cast of *Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In*.

Television Breakthrough

Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In was a unique show that surprised television audiences. It was a whirlwind of sketches, one-liners, dance numbers, and satire. In many ways, it was the precursor to Saturday Night Live.

Hawn joined *Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In* as a dancer. She was visually stunning, with bleached blonde hair, long eyelashes, skimpy outfits, and go-go boots. Hawn's wide-eyed expressions, trademark giggle, and naive persona made her an audience favorite. She was a 1960s version of the classic "dumb blonde" who is surprisingly clever behind her fake lashes and bottle-blonde hair.

Soon, Hawn was given larger roles in *Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In* skits. Her charisma and comedic timing turned Hawn from an extra into a budding star.



More About Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In

"Sock it to me!" was Hawn's most popular catchphrase on *Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In*. Hawn's playful delivery made the line extra memorable and became a common part of popular vocabulary.

Two of Goldie Hawn's most popular characters on the show were "bikini dancer" and "giggly girl." To play bikini dancer, Hawn wore a skimpy bathing suit with silly phrases and jokes written on her body. As a giggly girl, Hawn laughed hysterically at almost everything. Eventually, Hawn couldn't say her lines because she was giggling too hard.



One-Liners from Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In

Look that up in your Funk and Wagnalls! You bet your sweet bippy! One ringy-dingy... two ringy-dingies... Have I reached the party to whom I am speaking? I just wanna swing! Is that a chicken joke? Sock it to me! Blow in my ear, and I'll follow you anywhere. Now, that's a no-no! Want a Walnetto? Here come da Judge! Verrry interesting! And that's the truth—PFFFFT! He pushed me! Well. I'll drink to that! I did not know that! That's funny, so did she!

Movie Roles

Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In's success and Hawn's standout performances earned her movie roles. In 1970, Hawn won the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress for her role as a suicidal housewife in *Cactus Flower*. This marked the beginning of a successful film career, with Hawn becoming one of the most beloved actresses of her generation. She has appeared in dozens of films, television shows, and recorded record albums.

One of Hawn's best-known movies is the '70s classic *Shampoo*. In it, she plays one of the many love interests of a promiscuous man-about-town and hairdresser played by Warren Beatty.

In *Private Benjamin*, which Hawn also produced, she plays a woman who joins the army after her husband dies on their wedding night. The sheltered character isn't quite ready for basic training!

In 1996, Hawn took on another iconic role in *First Wives Club*. The "club" comprises women who are successful at work but find their marriages breaking up when their husbands want to trade them in for younger "trophy wives." She co-stars with powerhouses Bette Midler, Diane Keaton, and Sarah Jessica Parker.

Personal Life

Hawn was married to musician Bill Hudson from 1976 to 1980. The couple had two children, Oliver and Kate Hudson, who are actors. In 1983, Hawn filmed *Overboard* with Kurt Russell, and the two have been a couple ever since. They have one child together, Wyatt.

Being a blonde bombshell, Hawn has been linked to many men during the years she wasn't in relationships. They include actors, singers, race car drivers, producers, models, and heads of state.

Hawn is now a proud grandmother of seven. In a recent interview, she shared her dream of creating a television or film special with her whole family.

Goldie Hawn and Kurt Russell live together in Los Angeles. They have a second home in Aspen, Colorado, and the couple is often seen out and about in Aspen.

(Full disclosure: This writer met Goldie Hawn in Aspen in 1995. I was working at a deli, and she came in to order some sandwiches for her family to take on a picnic. She was completely down-to-earth and came in alone without any entourage.)

Beyond Entertaining

Goldie Hawn has used her fame to raise money and awareness for teenagers and their mental health. The Hawn Foundation created Mind Up, a curriculum for school-age kids that focuses on their emotional and mental health. Some of the topics addressed in the classes are ways to manage anxiety and how to reduce stress to improve focus. Mind Up has also produced a 10-minute documentary about the teenage brain and the unique way it functions. Hawn has expressed that her struggles with depression and her experience as a mother and grandmother inspired her.

Goldie Hawn Quotes

- "I have a light-hearted approach to life. Maybe it comes from growing up in an artistic family.
 My dad was a musician, and my mother loved to dance and sing."
- "I always believed you can change the world one laugh at a time."
- "My eyes are so big, and my nose is so small that when I cry, my tears look like they're looking for a place to go."
- "There are only three ages for women in Hollywood: babe, district attorney, and Driving Miss Daisy."
- "I finally stopped dieting because 'enough already.' I used to be angry at myself when I looked in the mirror. Now, I just say, 'Hiya, Goldie. How you doin'?' If it's good enough for my sons and my daughter, it's good enough for me."
- "If you're wearing a smile, no one will ever know you're naked."
- "I have a nervous breakdown twice a year. I really think we should all have one."
- "Youth is not something you can keep forever, but you can always keep the joy alive."
- "Why not just live in the moment, especially if it has a good beat?"



