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Flannery O'Connor Bio Info

Compiled by Kirk Irwin

Born: March 25th, 1925 in Savannah, Georgia

- Was an only child of a Catholic family.
- Father owned a real estate and construction company and later accepted a position for the Federal Housing Administration – the family moved to Atlanta, Georgia in 1938. Her mother came from a prominent family in the state.
- Later moved to Milledgeville (mother's family home), Georgia in 1940 where her father died of complications from lupus in 1941. Flannery was 16.
- She attended the Georgia State College for Women where she became heavily involved in the school newspaper as an editor, she graduated in 1945...after which she went to the University of Iowa to pursue her Masters in Fine Art in Literature..
- At 21 she published her first short story called "The Geranium" in *Accent* magazine.
- In 1950 she suffered her first attack of disseminated lupus and returned to Milledgeville to live with her mother.
- She continued to write and even lectured despite her disease.
- In 1955 she was forced to use crutches.
- In 1964 an abdominal operation reactivated her lupus and she died of complications on August 3rd at the age of 39.
- She was at the height of her literary influence.

Selected Works (from <http://kirjasto.sci.fi/flannery.htm>)

- *Wise Blood*, 1952 - film 1979, dir. by John Huston, starring Brad Dourif, Ned Beatty, Harry Dean Stanton. - "Odd story, not easy to like but with many impressive moments." (*Halliwel's Film & Video Guide 2001, 2000*)
- *A Good Man Is Hard To Find, and Other Stories*, 1955 (published in England as *The Artificial Nigger*)
- *The Violent Bear It Away*, 1960
- *A Memoir of Mary Ann*. 1962 (ed., published in England as *Death of a Child*)
- *Three by Flannery O'Connor*, 1964
- *Everything That Rises Must Converge*, 1965 (with an introduction by Robert Fitzgerald)
- *Mystery and Manners: Occasional Prose*, 1969 (ed. by Sally Fitzgerald and Robert Fitzgerald)
- *The Complete Short Stories of Flannery O'Connor*, 1971 - the National Book Award
- *The Habit of Being: Letters*, 1979 (ed. by Sally Fitzgerald)
- *The Presence of Grace and Other Book Reviews*, 1983 (ed. by Carter W. Martin)
- *The Correspondence of Flannery O'Connor and the Brainars Cheneys*, 1986 (edited by C. Ralph Stephens)
- *Collected Works*, 1988 (ed. by Sally Fitzgerald)