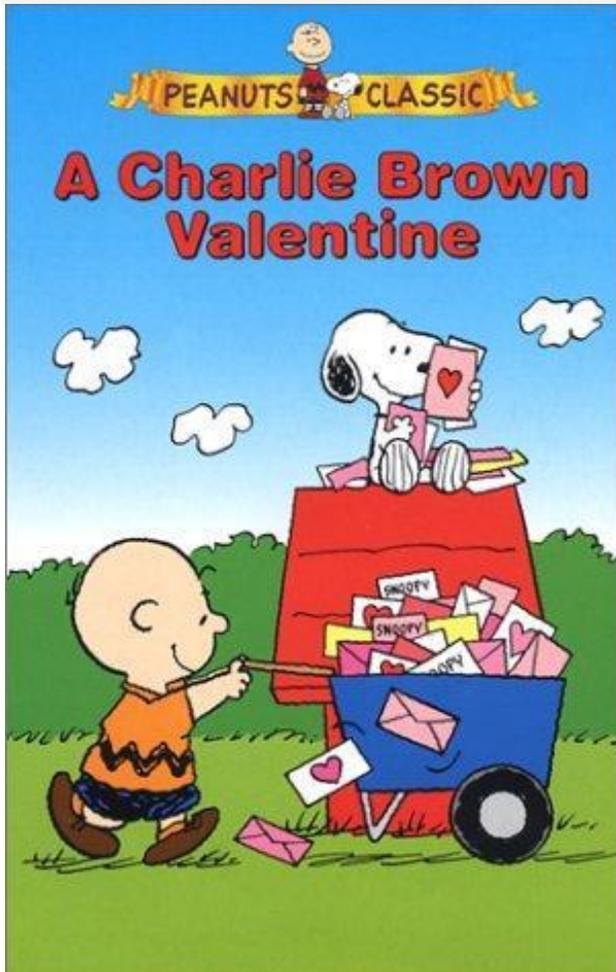


Good morning, Travelers,

We just wanted to say hello and wish a Happy Valentine Day to each and every one of you. Patt and I are headed to an early dinner in Anderson. We learned years ago not to wait late and try to eat out on this day. Even after 53 years she is still my valentine.



The day after Charles Schulz's death, the last-ever new Peanuts strip ran in papers. It featured Charlie Brown, Snoopy, and a message from the man who brought the characters to life for almost 50 years. The night before the comic's final run, Schulz died peacefully in his sleep at home due to complications of colon cancer. He had announced his retirement just two months earlier at Camp Snoopy inside the Mall of America telling fans, "There's a clause in my contract that says if I retire or die, the strip ends." At the time of his death, Peanuts ran in over 2,600 newspapers, with a readership of around 355 million in 75 countries, and was translated into 21 languages. It helped to cement the four-panel gag strip as the standard in the United States, and together with its merchandise earned Schulz more than \$1 billion.

As I write this I am in the midst of preparing for the "Lucky 13" international rally being held in Perry, Ga. This year I will be going down 5 days early to help with the parking crew. To my surprise we, the Kool Kids, are being parked with full hookups, electric, water and sewer. A deal! If you see me toot your horn.

We are still looking forward to the April Rally. I understand the weather will be a great April week end! Let me know if you plan to attend and I will give you a great satisfying job.

Jane Block, our PR lady and Eleanor Allen, our Secretary Treasurer spent some time together identifying potential members. They sent out our brochure and a personal letter to 35 folks. These were FMCA members whose names were supplied to our club. I have already had two responses from folks wanting to join and to maybe travel, in Oct., to the balloon festival with us.

Great job ladies.

Remember to always be mindful of others!

Larry

This is a picture from this week in History. Does it seem so long ago?



1976

American Dorothy Hamill won the free skate to clinch the women's figure-skating gold medal at the Innsbruck, Austria Winter Olympics. She would go on to win gold again at the 1976 World Championships in Göteborg, Sweden the following March before turning professional. Hamill is credited with developing a new skating move, a camel spin that turns into a sit spin, which became known as the "Hamill camel." In 1993, the Associated Press released results of a national sports study showing that Hamill was statistically tied for first place with fellow Olympian Mary Lou Retton as the most popular athlete in America, ranking far ahead of other major sports stars such as Michael Jordan, Magic Johnson, Troy Aikman, Dan Marino,