

1966 Fast Facts

- James Meredith is shot on civil rights march.
- The Supreme Court issues its “Miranda” ruling, which dictates that suspects must be told that they have a right to legal counsel and that they do not have to answer police questions.
- Russia makes the first soft moon landing.
- A sniper atop the tower at the University of Texas kills 12 and wounds 31.
- The Beatles perform their final live concert at Candlestick Park in San Francisco on August 29th.
- Southern soul music gets its first Pop #1 with Percy Sledge’s “When a Man Loves a Woman.”
- The Baltimore Orioles win the World Series and, after his greatest season, Los Angeles Dodger Sandy Koufax retires.
- Bill Russell leads the Celtic to its eighth consecutive NBA championship.
- The Green Bay Packers edge out the Dallas Cowboys for the NFL championship.
- Jack Nicklaus establishes himself as the world’s great golfer by winning the Masters and British Open.
- The year’s most honored movie is “A Man for All Seasons” with Paul Scofield.
- Walt Disney dies.
- The “Blizzard of ‘66” begins on January 30.
- The year’s #1 best seller is “The Valley of the Dolls” by Jacqueline Susann.
- Lyndon Johnson is President and Hubert Humphrey is Vice President.
- Life expectancy is 70.2 years.
- The cost of a new home is \$23,300.00.
- Time Magazine’s “Man of the Year” is The Generation Twenty-Five and under (Baby Boomers).
- Famous Quote: “Beam me up, Scotty.” (William Shatner, as Captain James Kirk in “Star Trek.”)
- The most popular TV shows are: Bonanza, The Red Skelton Show, The Andy Griffith Show, The Lucy Show, The Jackie Gleason Show, Green Acres, Daktari, Bewitched, The Beverly Hillbillies and Gomer Pyle U.S.M.C.

- Ronald Regan enters politics by becoming Governor of California.
- Indira Gandhi is elected Prime Minister of India.
- The Draft Deferment Test is started in the U.S. as a way for students to convince the Draft Board that they would serve the nation better in a classroom rather than the jungles of Vietnam.
- Famous Quote: “Fly the Friendly Skies” – United Airlines
- Unemployment: 4.5%
- Inflation: 2.7%
- Groundbreaking on the World Trade Center begins.
- The Metropolitan Opera House opens in New York City,
- Medicare begins on July 1.
- Wimbledon: Billie Jean King and Manuel Santana win.
- Cost of a first-class stamp is 5 cents.
- World Series: Baltimore beats the L.A. Dodgers (4-0).
- Oscar for best picture goes to “The Sound of Music”.
- Grammys:
 - Record of the year: “A Taste of Honey” - Herb Alpert and the Tijuana Brass
 - Album of the year: “September of My Years” – Frank Sinatra
 - Song of the Year – “The Shadow of Your Smile” (Love theme from “The Sandpiper”)
- The Black Panthers are formed.
- U.S. has nearly 500,000 troops in Vietnam.
- Quote: “Have It Your Way” – Burger King.
- “In Cold Blood” by Truman Capote is the most acclaimed book.
- Richard Speck murders 8 nurses in Chicago.
- Pampers creates the first disposable diaper.