

### **8. John Glenn**

John Glenn was born on July 18, 1921, in Cambridge, Ohio. He studied engineering at Muskingum College in New Concord, Ohio, and then joined the navy to be trained in aviation at the beginning of World War II. He also served in the Korean War. Following his tour of military duty, Glenn became involved with the space program and was selected as one of the seven original astronauts to work on the Mercury 6 space mission. On February 20, 1962, Glenn boarded his space capsule *Friendship 7* and became the first American astronaut to circle the globe. He made three complete orbits that day. Glenn retired from the space program in 1964 and went on to be a highly successful businessman. He pursued an interest in politics and was elected to the United States Senate from Ohio in 1974, where he served until 1998. Another historic moment came for Glenn in 1998 when he returned to orbit as part of the crew of the space shuttle Discovery. At age 77, he became the oldest person to go into space.

### **9. National Ice Cream Day and National Ice Cream Month**

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan designated July as National Ice Cream Month. He also appointed the third Sunday of July each year to be National Ice Cream Day because he recognized that ice cream was highly popular in the United States. Over 90% of Americans consume it in some form on a regular basis. In fact, more ice cream is eaten in the United States per capita than anywhere else in the world. The observance of National Ice Cream Month and National Ice Cream Day is supported by the International Dairy Foods Association. Not only are these celebrations a great time to enjoy a delicious treat, but they also provide an opportunity to focus educational attention on the dairy industry, dairy farming, and the health benefits of adding dairy products to the daily diet.

### **10. Henry Ford**

Henry Ford was born on July 30, 1863. He grew up on a prosperous family farm in Dearborn, Michigan. Very early in life he showed a great deal of interest in mechanical things but didn't care much for farm work. At age sixteen, he left for Detroit, Michigan, where he worked as an apprentice machinist. Ford went on to become an engineer with the Edison Illuminating Company in Detroit. At this point, he made a conscious decision to dedicate his life to industrial pursuits. He was promoted to Chief Engineer in 1893, which gave him the opportunity he needed to spend more time on his personal experiments with internal combustion engines. Ford developed a self-propelled vehicle which he called the Quadricycle. It had four bicycle-type wheels and steered with a tiller like a boat. It had only two speeds and no reverse. With his creation of the Model T in 1908, Ford realized his dream of producing an automobile that was affordable, reliable, and efficient. This vehicle ushered in a new era of personal transportation. It was easy to operate and maintain and handled well on rough roads. It became an overnight sensation. Perhaps Ford's crowning achievement was the development of the assembly line process for building the cars manufactured by his Ford Motor Company. Parts were delivered to the auto workers on a continuously moving conveyor belt, which made vehicle construction more efficient, time-saving, and cost-effective. The introduction of the moving assembly line revolutionized automobile production and influenced the manufacture of numerous other products, as well.