

## ASTRONOMY

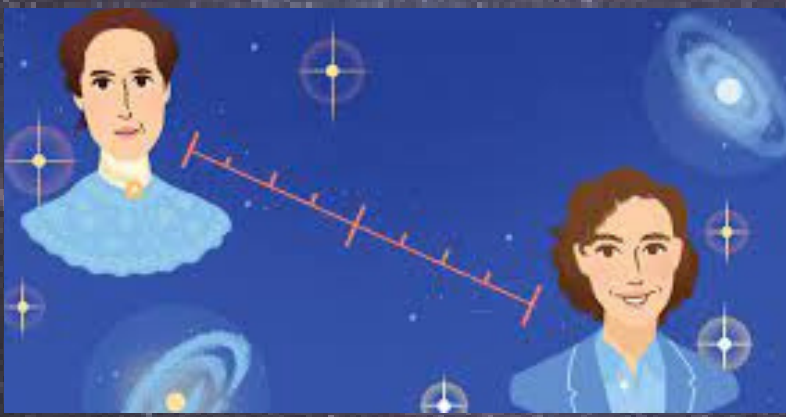
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# HENRIETTA SAWN LEAVITT

### BIOGRAPHY

Leavitt was born in Lancaster, Massachusetts, USA, in 1868. She graduated at the age of 24 from what is now Radcliffe College, a women's college associated with Harvard. Immediately afterwards she suffered a terrible illness that left her profoundly deaf. When she recovered, she began volunteering the following year at the Harvard College Observatory. cause of death, cancer

**FUN FACT**  
**A CRATER ON THE MOON WAS NAMED AFTER HIM**



**HE DISCOVERED AND CATALOGUED VARIABLE STARS IN THE MAGELLANIC CLOUDS, WHICH ALLOWED HIM TO DEDUCE IN 1912 THAT THE CEPHEIDS WITH THE HIGHEST INTRINSIC LUMINOSITY HAD LONG PERIODS, ESTABLISHING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO CHARACTERISTICS.**

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