

Stephen Hawking



At the age of 21 years Stephen Hawking was diagnosed with the crippling disease amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) whilst studying Cosmology (the Science of the Universe) at Cambridge University.


The disease progressively weakens the muscles and causes paralysis.

Despite this difficulty Hawking was able to complete his studies and go on to have a very successful and influential career in science.

Originally doctors gave him a life expectancy of two years.

This past January in 2015, he celebrated his 73rd birthday – exceeding his diagnosis by 48 years and still going

"Look up at the stars and not down at your feet. Try to make sense of what you see and wonder what makes the universe exist. Be curious." - Stephen Hawking

A black and white photograph of Stephen Hawking. He is wearing his characteristic glasses and a dark sweater. He is looking upwards and to the right with a thoughtful expression. A small, black, rectangular speech device is attached to his glasses, with a thin white tube extending from it. The background is a dark, starry space.

“*However difficult
life may seem,
there is **always**
something you can
do and **Succeed**
at.*

~ Stephen Hawking



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Introduction by Carl Sagan

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