**They Failed First**

**The pilot for Happy Days was turned down by ABC but used in the anthology series Love, American Style. George Lucas liked Ron Howard’s portrayal of Richie Cunningham and cast him in the blockbuster movie American Graffiti. After the success of the movie, ABC bought the show. (Don Voorhees, in The Essential Book of Useless Information, p. 12)**

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**October 15th, 2024 - Happy Days (Don Voorhees, in The Essential Book of Useless Information, p. 12)**

**October 8th, 2024 - Thomas A. Edison (Ripley's Believe It or Not!: Weird Inventions and Discoveries, p. 36)**

**October 1st, 2024 - Clint Eastwood (Ed Lucaire, in Celebrity Setbacks)**

**September 24th, 2024 - Toyota (Joe Griffith, in Speaker's Library of Business)**

**September 17th, 2024 – bankrupt *(Press-Telegram newspaper, Long Beach, CA)***

**September 10th, 2024 “Dear Abby” *(Suzanne Chazin, in the April, 1992 issue of Reader’s Digest on page 21)***

**September 3rd, 2024 - Henry David Thoreau *(Bob Fenster, in They Did What!?, p. 13)***

**August 27th, 2024 - Tom Selleck *(American Profile magazine)***

**August 20th, 2024 - *(Steve Harvey, talk-show host)***

**August 13th, 2024 - Walt Disney *(John Culhane, in Reader's Digest)***

**August 6th, 2024 - Henry Ford *(Glenn Van Ekeren, in The Speaker’s Sourcebook, p. 150)***

**July 30th, 2024 - Colonel Sanders *(Adapted from an article first published in The Atlantic, as it appeared in The Week magazine, July 26, 2024)***

**July 23rd, 2024 - Cheers (Don Voorhe*es, in The Perfectly Useless Book of Useless Information, p. 100)***

**July 16th, 2024 - Carl Sandburg *(L. M. Boyd)***

**July 9th, 2024 - Michael Jordan *(Bob Greene, in Reader’s Digest)***

**July 2nd, 2024 - Napoleon *(Isaac Asimov’s Book of Facts, p. 259)***

**June 25th, 2024 - Winston Churchill *(Bob Fenster, in They Did What!?, p. 16)***

**June 18th, 2024 - In George Washington *(Bob Fenster, in They Did What!?, p. 13) (Dr. D. James Kennedy)***

**June 11th, 2024 - Albert Einstein *(Charles Reichblum, in Knowledge in a Nutshell, p. 137)***

**June 4th, 2024 - Abraham Lincoln. *(Paul Stirling Hagerman, in It’s a Weird World, p. 74)***