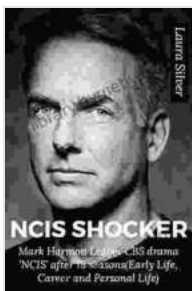


Mark Harmon Leaves CBS Drama NCIS After 18 Seasons: Early Life, Career, and Legacy of a Television Icon

Early Life and Career

Mark Harmon was born on September 2, 1951, in Burbank, California. His father, Tom Harmon, was a legendary football player and broadcaster, while his mother, Elyse Knox, was a film and television actress. Harmon's early life was marked by athleticism and a passion for the performing arts.



NCIS SHOCKER: Mark Harmon Leaves CBS drama 'NCIS' after 18 seasons (Early life, Career and personal life)

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

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Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
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Harmon attended UCLA, where he played football and majored in communications. After graduating, he pursued a career in acting, landing small roles in television shows and movies. His breakthrough came in 1983 with the lead role in the medical drama "St. Elsewhere."

NCIS: A Career-Defining Role

In 2003, Harmon joined the cast of "NCIS" as Leroy Jethro Gibbs, a cantankerous and brilliant special agent. The show quickly became a ratings success, and Harmon's portrayal of Gibbs became synonymous with the character.

As Gibbs, Harmon brought a unique blend of toughness, humor, and vulnerability to the screen. His character's unwavering commitment to justice, his close relationships with his team, and his complex backstory resonated deeply with audiences.

Legacy and Impact

Mark Harmon's departure from NCIS marks the end of an era for the long-running crime drama. His 18-season tenure has left an indelible mark on the show and the television landscape.

Harmon's portrayal of Gibbs has become one of the most iconic characters in television history. His ability to balance the character's gruff exterior with his softer side has made Gibbs a beloved and relatable figure.

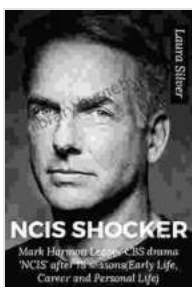
Beyond his acting talents, Harmon has also served as an executive producer on NCIS, contributing to the show's creative vision and success. His departure will undoubtedly leave a void, but his legacy will continue to inspire and entertain audiences for years to come.

Looking Ahead

While Harmon's time on NCIS has come to an end, his career is far from over. The actor has hinted at new projects on the horizon, and his fans eagerly await his next move.

Whether he takes on another challenging role in television, ventures into film, or pursues other creative endeavors, Mark Harmon is sure to leave a lasting impact on the entertainment industry. His talent, charisma, and dedication have made him an enduring icon, and his legacy will continue to be celebrated for years to come.

Mark Harmon's departure from NCIS is a bittersweet moment for fans of the show and television enthusiasts alike. His portrayal of Gibbs has captivated audiences for nearly two decades, and his legacy as one of the most beloved characters in television history will undoubtedly endure. As Harmon embarks on a new chapter in his career, we can only anticipate the exciting new projects and adventures that lie ahead for this talented and iconic actor.



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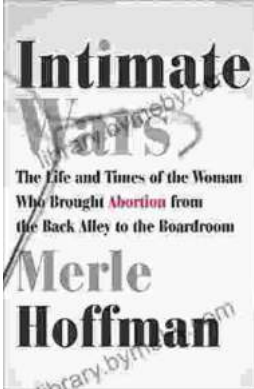
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