William Shakespeare

April 1564 - 3 May 1616
English poet, actor and playwright

Private life
* born in Stratford-upon-Avon
* father = glover & tanner of leathers
* studied Greek and Latin at Stratford Grammar school
* married Anne Hathaway (1582)
* 3 children (1 son died aged 11)
* buried in Stratford-upon-Avon in Holy Trinity Church

Career:
• went to London at the age of 25
• between 1585 and 1592, began a successful career as an actor and writer
• owned 2 companies: the King’s Men & the Chamberlain’s Men
• 1594: played at Court
• 1599: opening of his own theatre “the Globe”
• regarded as the greatest writer in the English language

What to remember of his works?
# wrote 38 plays, 154 sonnets, and 2 long narrative poems

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