Life

Born May 12, 1820 in Florence Italy, but she grew up in England and was English.

Her mother did not want her to study math but “more appropriate subjects for a woman.”

Served in two wars for two countries. In the Crimean War for England and the Civil war for the United States.

Most famous for being a nurse but was a brilliant mathematician. Queen Victoria created the Royal Order of the Red Cross award for her. Given now to nurses who serve in war. First woman to receive the Order of Merit.

Never married because she wanted to serve in the Crimean War. Dies in August 1910 at age 90.
Florence Nightingale is much loved around the world. There are many statues of her. The three here are in London, Rhode Island and Japan.
Mathematical Accomplishments!

Florence Nightingale led the way in the establishing revolutionary methods of displaying information through charts and graphs.

Florence Nightingale invented many formulas and methods for the collection, tabulation, interpretation, graphical display of disruptive statics.

Her math was focused on learning how to save lives of sick and wounded in wars. She saved many lives.
During the Crimean war she developed the polar-area diagram. This showed that the deaths of many soldiers are caused by unsanitary conditions. Because she showed this with math and could prove it people believed her and she showed the need to reform. Because of her battlefield hospitals changed and many lives were saved.

During the American civil war Nightingale was consulted by the United States Government. Her mathematical activities included accreting “the average speed of transport by the sledge” and calculating the time required to transport the sick over the immense distances. This saved many lives. Armies knew how to get wounded to hospitals so they had the supplies ready and fewer wounded died on the trip to a hospital.
TIMELINE

Born in Florence Italy on May 12th, 1820

1853: Becomes Superintendent of the Institution for the Care of Sick Gentlewomen in Distressed Circumstances

October 1853 - March 1856: Crimean War

1854: Went to the Crimea to organize the hospital at Scutari for wounded and sick soldiers.

1860: Attended Kings College in London.

1860: Florence Nightingale opens her own training school and publishes “Notes on Nursing.”

April 1861 - May 1865: American Civil War

1883 Awarded Order of the Red Cross by Queen Victoria

1883 Alexander Graham Bell invents the lightbulb.

Year of Mathematician’s death: August 13, 1910
Sources

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