

## Seamus Heaney.

Heaney was born on 13<sup>th</sup> April 1939, in the rural County Derry, in Northern Ireland. He died in the Blackrock Clinic in Dublin on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2013, aged 74. Seamus Heaney was raised in a Catholic household and became agnostic.

During his childhood, Heaney was deeply influenced by the life of country, which later, found expression in his poetry. Then, as he grew up he also watched the industrial mushroom around him, and soon he saw the rural side of Ireland deplete. All these events influenced his artistic talents, and he ultimately incorporated all these in his writings.

Seamus Heaney's father was Patrick Heaney, his mother was Margaret Kathleen McCann, his daughter is Catherine Ann, his sons are Christopher and Michael Heaney, his brother is also Christopher and his wife is Marie Devlin.

In Heaney's career, he was an Irish poet, playwright and translator. He received the 1995 Nobel Prize in Literature. Among his best-known works is *Death of a Naturalist* in 1966, his first major published volume.

Heaney's literary influences include the classics of both English and Irish poetry as well as an increasingly international influence. Seamus Heaney also considered John Keats, who was an English poet, as one of his greatest influences. While undergoing training to become a teacher, he was introduced to the poetry of Patrick Kavanagh, which inspired him to write and publish his one set of poetry, beginning in 1962.

Heaney is best remembered for his generosity of spirit and unstinting support of younger writers, championing them in public and encouraging them in private correspondence.