

2022 Relationships & Specialist Techniques Exam - Health

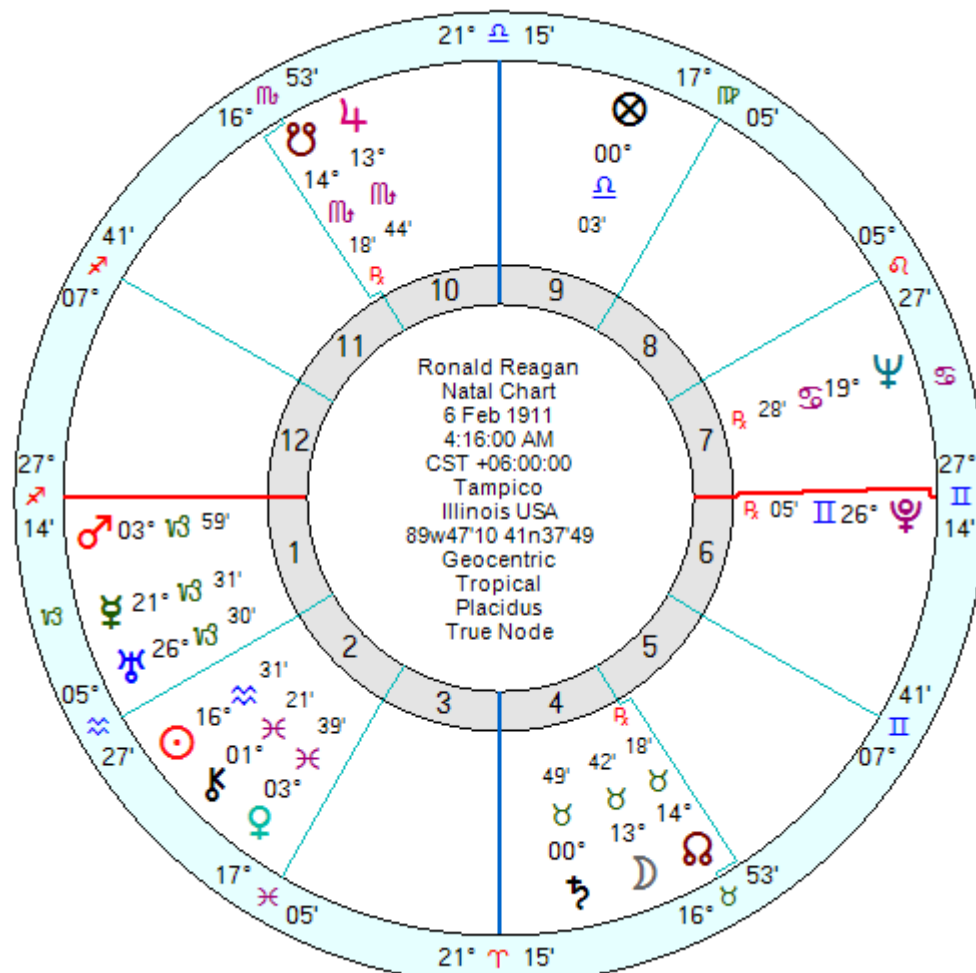
Candidate Number: 222218

Ronald Reagan: 6 February 1911, 4.16 am, Tampico, Illinois, USA.

ASC close to 27 degrees Sagittarius

It could be said that physical disease is the final expression of symptoms that are already present in the psycho-emotional make-up inherent at birth and are perhaps genetically inherited.

American movie star and US President Ronald Reagan suffered from Alzheimer's disease for several years before he died in 2004. Discuss and address the astrological indicators in his chart for this condition as well as the potential health issues that this man may have hypothetically experienced from a physical, psychological, spiritual, mental, and emotional perspective.



Former US President Ronald Reagan lived a brilliant and politically successful life. Amongst his many legacies was the leadership of America and the West through the Cold War with the Soviet Union. Reagan was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in early 1994, the disease progressed till his death in 2004. We will examine his natal chart through a health perspective in order to unearth astrological signatures that herald this condition as well as other potential health issues he may have hypothetically experienced.

With a holistic approach to medicine, astrology recognises the person as whole and that there is an intimate interconnection between physical health, mental health and emotional well-being. Physical ailment is one of the many possible manifestations portrayed in the psycho-emotional make-up inherent at birth.

For a health analysis, we examine the 1st, 6th, 8th and 12th houses, their rulers and any planets therein. The Ascendant and first house are regarded as the seat of vitality, and along with the Sun which was regarded as the seat of the soul by the ancient, describe the native's general health and physical constitution. The 6th house is the primary house in terms of potential prevalence or patterns of diseases. The 8th and 12th houses are also considered to be illness related houses and planets that reside in them are more likely to manifest as ailments. The Sun or Ascendant ruler being in one of these health houses would suggest possible ill health. Planets in difficult configurations to each other, especially the quincunx, are also strong indicators of physical illness. Reagan owned a number of difficult planetary aspects which bear high risk for the development of ill health.

Reagan's Ascendant is Sagittarius and its ruler, Jupiter, is in Scorpio, in the 10th house, perigrine and conjunct the South Node. Sagittarius is a robust Fire sign with excellent power to fight off diseases. A positive outlook, through Jupiter's rulership, indicates that

Reagan may have overestimated his own physical capacity and health. There is also a tendency for overindulgence as shown by his Jupiter-Sun square which may have overworked the liver (Jupiter). The South Node is a point of drainage and diminution, *“planets closely conjoined this point (South Node) are all too often impaired or gravely weakened.”* (Hill, 2004, pg. 61). Its conjunction to the perigrine Jupiter would lessen Reagan’s optimistic health picture.

Reagan’s Aquarius Sun is in detriment, in the 2nd house, at the nodal bendings and quincunx Neptune in Cancer. Planets at the bendings denote crisis the native has to experience, and Reagan had some major crises concerning his values (2nd house), sense of purpose and his physical health (Sun). Indeed, he survived an assassination attempt in his first term, then later fought public sector labour unions, waged a war on drugs and invaded Grenada. The Sun quincunx Neptune describes weakening of the vital force and the tendency to have health issues that are difficult to diagnose and treat, as well as being prone to infections, allergies and being sensitive to drugs of all kinds.

Reagan has rising Capricorn Mars which brings stamina and energy to his overall health. His Mars is out of bound, thus behaves erratically and may portend accidents to the head, infections to the brain, knee (Capricorn) injury or inflammatory skin (Capricorn) disorders such as eczema or psoriasis.

Reagan’s 6th house cusp is Gemini, with its ruler Mercury perigrine in the 1st house. Gemini governs *“the shoulders, arms, lungs, nerves, tubes and blood capillaries...”* (Ridder-Patrick, 2006, pg. 97). The presence of the 6th ruler in the 1st house is a strong indication for suffering illness at one time or another during the course of Reagan’s life. His illness may

have had a sudden onset (Mercury conjunct Uranus) and of an unknown or vague origin that was hard to diagnose (Mercury opposes Neptune).

In order to ascertain if Reagan would succumb to illness or have the ability to fight off diseases, we compare the relative strength of Jupiter, the Ascendant's ruler and Mercury, 6th house ruler. Here both planets are perigrine, without strength, and afflicted with Mercury being even more afflicted than Jupiter, signalling that serious illness would prevail at some point in his life.

There are strong indications for Alzheimer's in Reagan's chart. Gemini, which rules the nerves and thought process, is on the 6th house cusp of diseases. Its ruler Mercury, also ruling "*the Nervous System and mental faculties...*" (Ridder-Patrick, 2006, pg. 51), is debilitated in the 1st house, signifying ill health as part of Reagan's life journey. Mercury conjunct Uranus suggests distorted cognition, while the opposition to Neptune would indicate memory deficit or disorganised and befuddled thought patterns. Mercury conjunct Uranus and opposition Neptune also describe weakening (Neptune) of the blood vessels (Mercury) and lack of blood flow to the brain (1st house), a feature of Alzheimer's disease, due to shock, ruptures or epilepsy (Uranus) or could even describe neurofibrillary (Mercury) tangles (Uranus) which are toxic to neurons and their transport system. Neurofibrillary tangles cause neurodegeneration (Mercury quincunx Pluto) and are one of the biomarkers of Alzheimer's disease. In addition, his Sun is the only Air planet and at the bends pointing to crisis in mental power.

Other supporting signatures for susceptibility of mental or neural disorders in Reagan's chart include Moon opposite Jupiter and Jupiter being ruler of both the 1st house of health and the 12th house of self-undoing habits, mental health and hospitalisation.

Reagan may have been his own worst enemy by unknowingly putting his health at risk through his lifestyle choices. Chronic mental health issues that require long in-patient care are prominent with Jupiter's co-rulership of the 1st and 12th houses. Memory loss can also be attributed to the Moon opposite Jupiter. Jupiter governs "*the cerebrum, memory, reasoning power and arterial blood...*" (Ridder-Patrick, 2006, pg. 58 & 60). The Moon governs "*the limbic system, habits, body fluid, feeding patterns and emotional based illnesses...*" (Ridder-Patrick, 2006, pg. 48-49). The Moon opposite Jupiter may be a signature for emotional upheavals having a detrimental effect on Reagan's memory and reasoning capacity.

We look to the Moon for clues to Reagan's emotional well-being. His strong Moon is exalted in Taurus and conjunct the North Node. According to Judith Hill, the North Node "*can suggest an area of the body where we enjoy unusual strength*" (Hill, 2004, pg. 64). This conjunction implies that Reagan enjoyed good emotional health. With the Moon in Taurus, Reagan may have found that he relied on good food and regular habits to keep himself feeling emotionally secure. The Moon opposition Jupiter and sextile the Sun indicates that Reagan's health and constitution (Jupiter, Sun) are closely linked to and highly affected by his emotional well-being (the Moon). The Moon opposition Jupiter also points to a sweet tooth or gluttony which does not confer good health.

Reagan's chart suggests positive psychological health. The Sun, symbolising his life purpose and sense of identity, together with the 2nd house of self-esteem and personal values convey the general make-up for his psychological health. We have the Sun in Aquarius and exalted Venus in the 2nd house. Reagan may have found his purpose and calling through innovative social work (Aquarius). Indeed, during his presidency, he

implemented many new political and economic initiatives, such as tax reform and reducing government spending, inflation and debt. Venus in Pisces sextile the Moon in Taurus, both exalted, is a positive configuration for a warm disposition and friendly demeanour.

The 3rd house, Gemini and Mercury together govern mental health, the intellect, conscious thoughts, and communication. Reagan's 3rd house ruler is Jupiter with Pisces on 3rd house cusp. As mentioned earlier, Jupiter is afflicted by a square to the Sun and conjunction to the South Node which describes decline in intellect. Mercury is also not doing well, being perigrine, conjuncting Uranus and opposing Neptune denoting memory loss and jangled thought patterns. Gemini on the 6th house cusp heralds the prevalence of mental or nervous disorders, especially emphasised by its ruler being in the 1st house negatively affecting health. The first house rules the head and brain and thus contributes to the overall mental health picture. Reagan's 1st house is afflicted given that it contains the malefics Mars and Uranus as well as Mercury, ruler of the 6th house of illness. We can hazard a guess that Reagan suffered worries and frazzled mental health throughout his life, even prior to his Alzheimer's diagnosis.

Spiritually, Reagan would have suffered periods of disillusionment, confusion and violent upsets with the divine (the 9th house is ruled by Mercury who opposes Neptune and conjunct Uranus).

In conclusion, we have discussed a number of health concerns that Reagan may have dealt with during the course of his life. His natal chart bears strong signatures for Alzheimer's disease (Gemini on the 6th cusp, afflicted Mercury in the 1st house and malefics in the 1st house). Reagan's constitution shows a mixture of robust health (Sagittarius Ascendant and exalted Mars rising) and of declined vitality (Jupiter conjunct South Node,

Sun in detriment quincunx Neptune). There is a tendency for excessive appetite and overindulgence (Sun square Jupiter, Moon in Taurus opposition Jupiter) which may have placed his liver under stress. Reagan seemed to have enjoyed good emotional and psychological health (exalted Moon sextile exalted Venus), though had suffered some disillusionment in his spiritual quest (Mercury, ruler of 9th house opposes Neptune). Reagan lived a long life of 93 years, serving the American people and leading the US through tough economic and political times. He is an example that negative indications for potential illness in the natal chart do not preclude a fulfilling and meaningful life.

Word count: 1601

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