The Lives and Deaths of Stars

A presentation of the Universe in the Parks program

The University of Wisconsin-Madison
Department of Astronomy
M31: The Andromeda Galaxy
The Rosette Nebula
M16: The Eagle Nebula

Gaseous Pillars · M16

HST · WFPC2

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J. Hester and P. Scowen (AZ State Univ.), NASA
RCW 49

Star formation revealed in the infrared
Evolution of the Sun
Cat’s Eye Nebula
Stars like the Sun end their lives as white dwarfs.

Stars with more than roughly 8 times the mass of the Sun end up as neutron stars or black holes.

A neutron star is about the same size as New York City!
A Recent Supernova in the Large Magellanic Cloud

Supernova 1987A Rings

Hubble Space Telescope Wide Field Planetary Camera 2
An Historical Supernova in a.d. 1054

Recorded by:

- Chinese and Japanese Astronomers
- Anastzi Indians in Chaco Canyon, present-day New Mexico (photo)
Crab Nebula
Crab Pulsar
X-ray (Chandra)  Visible light (Hubble)

**Crab Pulsar**
Veil nebula: Remains of an ancient supernova
RS Ophiuchi: Explosions from a binary star system
A Blast in the Whirlpool
Safe travels and happy landings.