



2022 NATIONAL INVENTORS  
HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

**Born:** April 16, 1923

**Died:** Jan. 30, 2019

**Primary Connection:**

- Boots Pure Drug Co.: Head of Pharmaceutical Sciences

**Education:**

- University of Nottingham: Bachelor's Degree, Pharmacology, 1945
- University of Leeds: Ph.D., Pharmacology, 1952

**Key Memberships/Awards:**

- Order of the British Empire, 1987
- Royal Society of Chemistry National Chemical Landmark (to Boots UK), 2013

## 10 Things You Need to Know About

# Stewart Adams

## Inventor of Ibuprofen

U.S. PATENT NO. 3,228,831

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1. Adams was born in Byfield, Northamptonshire, England.
2. He was the son of a train driver.
3. He started his working relationship with Boots Pure Drug Co. as a three-year apprentice.
4. Adams' first job after receiving his degree was in Boots' penicillin production unit, in the early days of penicillin when it was grown in milk bottles.
5. Adams often tested compounds on himself.
6. He said, "I always felt that if you were going to ask volunteers to take a drug and later patients, you ought to be prepared to take it yourself."
7. In 1983, Adams officially retired from the research department at Boots, where he was head of pharmaceutical sciences.
8. He lectured widely on ibuprofen and related topics.
9. Adams died in January 2019 in Nottingham, England.
10. Adams had 14 U.S. patents.