

Ford's Theatre
National Historic Site



Charles Leale



Dr. Charles Leale - *Union Surgeon*

Born: March 26, 1842 in New York, N.Y.

Died: June 13, 1932 in New York, N.Y.

Charles Leale, a Union army surgeon, was the first doctor into Lincoln's box after he was shot on April 14, 1865. He decided that the only way to keep the President alive was to periodically remove the blood clot from the head wound, a treatment that kept Lincoln alive for nine more hours. Leale stayed with Lincoln through the night, holding the President's hand until he died at 7:22 the following morning.