

Basic Detail Report

A man holds up a copy of a newspaper with the headline: 'The Pope is dead', in St. Peter's Square, after the death of Pope John Paul I on 28 September 1978

Date

1978-1978

Medium

gelatin silver print

Description

Pope John Paul I, born Albino Luciani (1912 – 1978), served as Pope from 26 August 1978 to his sudden death 33 days later. His reign is among the shortest in papal history. He enjoyed great popularity and was known as 'the smiling Pope'. His sudden death caused some speculation, but the request for an autopsy to determine the cause of death was denied. Large crowds waited in lines for hours to view the Pope lying in state.

Dimensions

Overall: 20.7 x 30.8 cm (8 1/8 x 12 1/8 in.)