Fun Facts:

**Mu Cephei**

Computer Code:mucep

* **Other Names:**
  + Garnet Star
  + Herschel’s Garnet Star
  + Erakis
* **Location:**
  + RA: 21h 44m 0s
  + Dec: 58⁰ 52’
* **Basics:**
  + This is a red variable carbon-star supergiant in the constellation Cepheus.
  + It is likely the largest star visible to the naked eye, and one of the largest known. If it were in place of the Sun, it would stretch to somewhere between Jupiter and Saturn. It could fit about 2 billion Suns into its volume.
  + This is a dying star and has already begun to fuse helium into carbon. Eventually its core will be converted to iron and it will collapse to produce a supernova. After the explosion, the gaseous remnant will likely be massive enough to form a black hole.
  + It has semi-regular variability, with periods reported near to either 860 days or 4,400 days. It is actually a double star.
  + Distance: estimating this is hard and estimates vary. Some measurements say 6000 light years, others say 2400 light years.
  + The distance between the two stars is 14,500 astronomical units.
  + Temperature: 5610⁰ F
  + Size: the radius is estimated between 1450x and 1650x that of the Sun
  + B-V Color Index: +2.24, red
  + Luminosity: 11,700 Suns visual or 100,000x times brighter than the Sun or maybe even as much as 600,000x brighter than the Sun
  + Magnitude: +3.43 to + 5.10
  + Mass: 19x our Sun