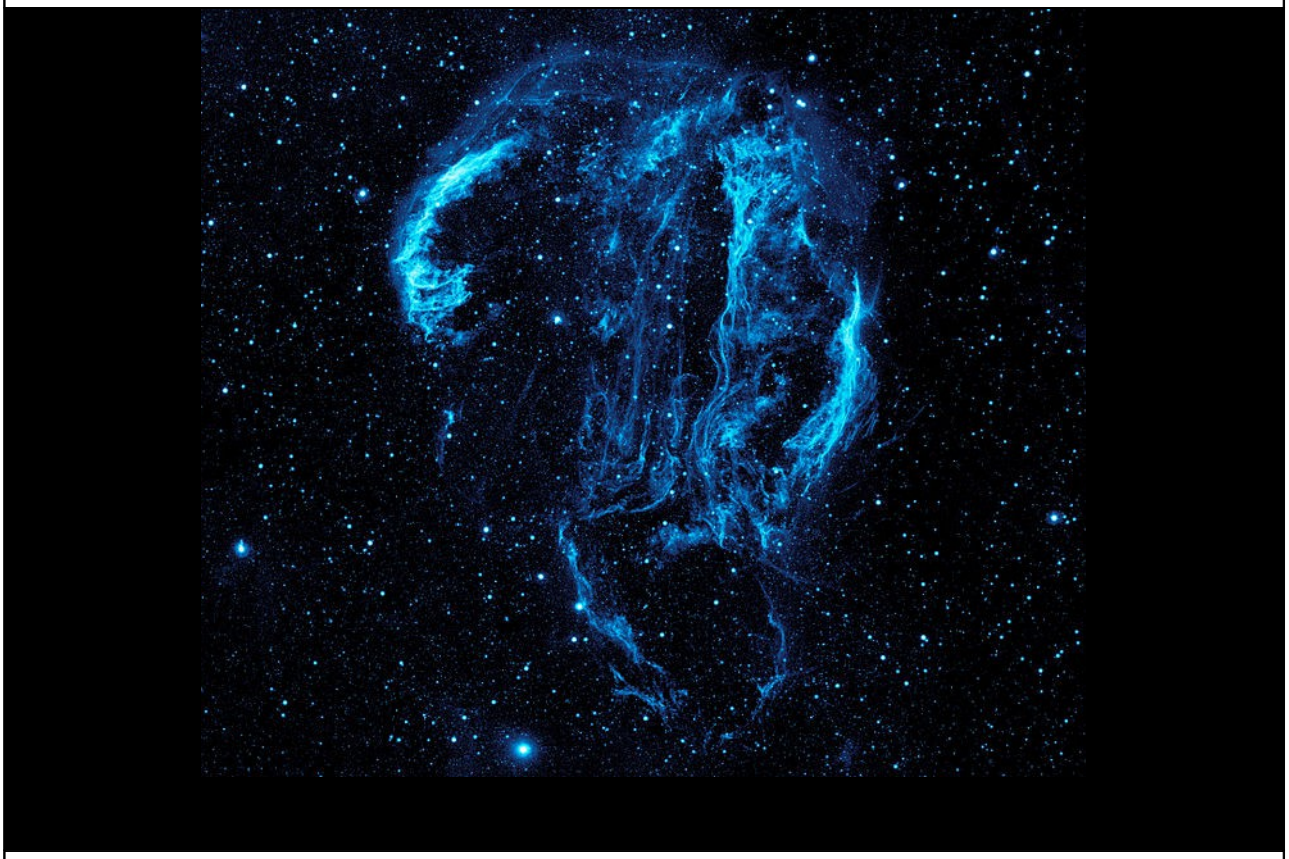
2045

Veil Nebula



Quick Facts: Distance: 1500 Light-years. Size: 100 Light-years. Constellation: Cygnus.

Remnant of a supernova explosion 10,000 years ago. 2 bright parts of the "shell" are relatively easily visible. Expanding at 60 mi/second. Find it: Star hop there in 2 steps. Find the Northern Cross (NC) and follow its crossbar to the eastern tip. Now look 5 degrees E to find another fainter star. This is the hypotenuse of a right triangle, the 3rd star is 2-1/2 degrees south of the eastern tip star of the NC. The nebula literally veils this star 52 Cygni. Look NE back towards the hypotenuse for a 2nd faint arc. GOTO: NAMED OBJECTS.

Image by NASA/JPL-Caltech, Quick reference card by Derek Wallentinsen.