

AST 301

Quiz #8

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1. a) Describe in a sentence or two how a neutron star forms.

The core of a massive star collapses when fusion has turned it into iron, and further fusion takes energy instead of releasing it. Electrons fuse with protons to make neutrons as it collapses.

b) What makes us think that pulsars are neutron stars?

They spin so fast that any bigger stars would be flung apart.

2. Define the word galaxy.

A group of billions of stars (plus gas clouds and planets, among other things) like the Milky Way.