

# [***Tom Smothers, Half Of Comedic Duo The Smothers Brothers, Dies At 86: Here Are The Biggest Deaths Of 2023***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6886-RP21-JBCM-F1N5-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Length:** 12075 words

**Byline:** Conor Murray, Forbes Staff

**Highlight:** Singers Sinead O'Connor and Tony Bennett and actors Lance Reddick and Raquel Welch are among the celebrities who have died in 2023.

**Body**

**Topline**

From daytime television star Billy Miller to musicians Steve Harwell and Sinead O Connor, the following celebrities are among the biggest stars who have died this year.

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FILE - Tom Smothers does yo-yo tricks during arrivals at CBS's 75th anniversary celebration Sunday, Nov. 2, 2003, in New York. Tom Smothers, half of the Smothers Brothers and the co-host of one of the most socially conscious and groundbreaking television shows in the history of the medium, has died, Tuesday, Dec. 26, 2023 at 86. (AP Photo/Louis Lanzano, File)

AP2003

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**Key Facts**

Listed below, by date, are celebrities who have died in 2023, leaving behind storied legacies in the film, television and music industries.

**Herb Kohl (december 27)**

Herb Kohl, a retired Wisconsin Senator, businessman, and former owner of the Milwaukee Bucks died on Wednesday at age 88 after a brief illness. Kohl became president of his family-owned business in 1970, which included dozens of grocery stores and the Kohl s department store chain. Kohl sold the company in 1979, and began a decades-long career investing in real estate and the stock market. He also became heavily involved in professional basketball. Kohl purchased his hometown team, the Milwaukee Bucks, for $18 million in 1985. After almost 30 years of ownership, Kohl sold the team toMarc Lasry, the CEO of Avenue Capital Group, andWesley Edens, co-founder of Fortress Investment Group. The pair of billionaires reportedly paid $550 million for the team. Kohl also chipped in $100 million of his own money to fund a new arena for the team in Milwaukee. Two years after the sale of the Bucks, Forbes estimatedKohl s net worthat $650 million although he promised to donate proceeds of the sale to charities. Kohl was also heavily involved in Wisconsin Democratic ***politics***, ran for senate in 1988, and won reelection four times until his retirement in 2011. According to his organization, theHerb Kohl Educational Foundationhas donated almost $18.5 million in grants and scholarships for Wisconsin high school students. He has also donated millions to his alma mater, the University of Wisconsin-Madison including $25 million to the school to build a new basketball arena, later named the Kohl Center.

**Tom Smothers (december 27)**

Tom Smothers, part of the iconic Smothers Brothers comedy duo, died Tuesday at age 86, according to theNational Comedy Center.Tom and his brother Dick started out as a folk singing group and rose to fame as a comedy duo well-known for its satirical political commentary. Their pioneering TV show, The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour, first aired in 1967 and was famously cancelled abruptly in 1969 amid longtime tensions with CBS executives over the brothers resistance to censorship and other disagreements over the show s political content. The duo famously used a comedic lens to discuss political issues like their opposition to the Vietnam War and support of civil rights. The Smothers Brothers were still performing as recentlyas last year, when they launched a new tour. In a statement, his brother Dick said Tom was not only the loving older brother that everyone would want in their life, he was a one-of-a-kind creative partner. He said their relationship was like a good marriage the more we were together, the more we loved and respected one another. The National Comedy Center described the duo as the most enduring comedy duo in history.

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NEW YORK, NEW YORK - JULY 14: Lee Sun-kyun attends the 2023 New York Asian Film Festival Opening Night at Walter Reade Theater on July 14, 2023 in New York City. (Photo by John Nacion/Getty Images)

John Nacion

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**Lee Sun-Kyun (december 27)**

Lee Sun-kyun, the South Korean actor who earned international recognition after starring in the Oscar-winning film Parasite died at age 48 in an apparent suicide in Seoul, police said on Wednesday. Lee was awell-known actorin South Korea before Parasite, playing major roles in South Korean television series like 2007 s Coffee Prince and starring in critically acclaimed movies like the 2009 thriller Paju. But the 2019 hit Parasite made international waves when it became thefirst foreign-language filmto win best picture at the Oscars. The news of his death came amid an ongoing investigation into allegations that Lee had used marijuana and other illegal drugs, with South Korea having some of the world s strictest drug laws. CNNreported that Lee had been questioned by police as recently as Dec. 23. He maintained his innocence and claimed he d been tricked into using drugs and later blackmailed.

**Colin Burgess (december 16)**

Colin Burgess, the original drummer of the rock band AC/DC,diedat age 77 on Saturday, the band said in a Facebook post. Burgess, an Australia native, wasrecruitedin 1973 to help form AC/DC alongside Malcolm Young, his brother Angus, Dave Evans and Larry Kriedt. Burgess wasfiredfrom the band the following year, after its members accused him of being drunk on stage a claim Burgess did not deny, arguing someone had spiked his drink. Burgessplayedon the band s debut single, Can I Sit Next To You, Girl, and madelater appearanceswith AC/DC when Bon Scott became its lead singer. Before AC/DC, Burgess was a member of The Masters Apprentices, an Australian group that was inducted into the Australian Recording Industry Association Hall of Fame in 1998. Burgess laterformedthe hard rock band His Majesty and also performed with Dead Singers, before performing with his brother Denny with The Burgess Brothers Band and Burgess Burgess.

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Andrew Braugher in "Brooklyn Nine-Nine." (Photo by: John P. Fleenor/NBC/NBCU Photo Bank via Getty Images)

NBCU Photo Bank via Getty Images

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**Andre Braugher (december 11)**

Andre Braugher, an actor best known for his acclaimed work on television,diedat age 61 on Monday following a months-longbattlewith lung cancer. A graduate of Stanford University and the Juilliard School, Braugher made his filmdebutin 1989, starring in a supporting role in Glory alongside Matthew Broderick, Denzel Washington and Morgan Freeman. He then began a decades-long run on television,beginningwith his role in Homicide: Life on the Street, which ran from 1993 to 1999. For his role as a police detective, Braugher wasnominatedtwice for an Emmy Award for lead actor in a drama series, winning in 1998. Hestarredin several series throughout the 2000s, including Gideon s Crossing (2000-2001), Hack (2002-2004) and the miniseries Thief (2006), for which he won his second Emmy Award. He received two further Emmynominationsfor Men of a Certain Age and four further nods for his comedic turn in Brooklyn Nine-Nine (2013-2021). His final filmrolewas in the 2022 movie She Said, based on the New York Times expose of Harvey Weinstein s history of sexual abuse against women in Hollywood. NBC, the network on which Homicide and Brooklyn Nine-Nine aired,mournedBraugher in a statement, calling him the actor that others in the profession would always aspire to be and he will continue to inspire future generations. Braugher s Brooklyn Nine-Nine costar Terry Crews honored Braugher in aposton Instagram: I will be forever grateful for the experience of knowing you. Thank you for your wisdom, your advice, your kindness and your friendship, Crews stated.

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O'Neal died at age 82. (Photo by Paul Archuleta/FilmMagic)

FilmMagic

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**Ryan O neal (december 8)**

Ryan O Neal, an actor best known for his television and film roles in the 1960s and 1970s,diedFriday at age 82. An amateur boxer before starting an acting career, O Neal rose to fame with hisroleas Rodney Harrington on the drama series Peyton Place, which aired from 1964 to 1969. O Neal then became aleading manin film, earning an Oscar nomination for his role in the box office hit Love Story (1970). Three years later, O Nealstarredin Paper Moon, earning a Golden Globe nomination and starring alongside his daughter, Tatum O Neal, who won an Oscar for her role making her the youngest competitive winner of an acting Oscar. He also had leading roles in other 1970s films, like Stanley Kubrick s Barry Lyndon, Richard Attenborough's A Bridge Too Far and a role opposite Barbra Streisand in What s Up, Doc? Though his career began tofluctuatein the 1980s, O Neal continued to act, including a regular role on the crime series Bones from 2006 to 2017. O Neal was also known for his personal life, including his decades-longrelationshipwith actress Farrah Fawcett. They hadsplitfor years after Fawcett caught him in bed with another woman. He also had rocky relationships with his children, including an infamous altercation with his son Griffin in which Ryan O Neal wasarrestedfor shooting a gun into a stair banister as a warning shot, claiming self defense because his son allegedly approached him with a fireplace poker. Tatum O Nealsaidshe felt great sorrow about her father s death in a statement to People magazine. "He meant the world to me. I loved him very much and know he loved me too. I'll miss him forever and I feel very lucky that we ended on such good terms."

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Norman Lear created some of the most popular sitcoms of the 1970s, including "All in the Family." (Photo by JC Olivera/Getty Images)

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**Norman Lear (december 5)**

Television icon Norman Lear, known for creating and producing some of the biggest shows of the 1970s,diedTuesday at age 101. Lear s sitcom All in the Family, which ran from 1971 to 1979, was the mostpopularshow of its era and was consideredgroundbreakingfor its portrayal of social issues, such as racism, homosexuality, feminism and the Vietnam War. Lear took inspiration partially from British sitcom Till Death Do Us Part, and from his own family some insults Learsaidhis father would wield against his own family, such as telling his wife to stifle it or calling his son the laziest white kid I ever seen, made their way onto the show. All in the Family inspiredLear to create a spinoff series, Maude, which inspired another spinoff, Good Times. Lear also created popular sitcoms Sanford and Son, One Day at a Time and The Jeffersons, which ended its ten-year run in 1985 as the longest-running series with a predominantly Black cast (a record that s since beenbrokenby Tyler Perry s House of Payne ). Lear won six PrimetimeEmmy Awardsfor his television work: All in the Family won him three consecutive awards for Outstanding Comedy Series between 1971 and 1973, as well as one for Outstanding New Comedy Series in 1971. He won his final two Emmys in 2019 and 2020 for live television specials about All in the Family, Good Times and The Jeffersons. Before his television dominance, Lear wasnominatedfor an Academy Award for his screenplay for Divorce American Style (1967), and he wrote and directed Cold Turkey (1971) starring Dick Van Dyke. Learreceivedthe Golden Globe Carol Burnett Award for lifetime achievement in television in 2021, and he was awarded at the Kennedy Center Honors in 2017. Lear, known for his left-wing ***politics***,boycottedthe traditional White House reception following the Kennedy Center Honors over his opposition to then-President Donald Trump. In 1981, hefoundedthe progressive advocacy organization People for the American Way. Lear s family honored him in astatement: Norman lived a life of creativity, tenacity, and empathy. He deeply loved our country and spent a lifetime helping to preserve its founding ideals of justice and equality for all. Knowing and loving him has been the greatest of gifts.

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O'Connor died Friday at age 93. (PAUL J.RICHARDS/AFP via Getty Images)

AFP via Getty Images

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**Sandra Day O connor (december 1)**

Sandra Day O Connor, the first woman to serve as a Supreme Court justice, died at age 93 of complications related to advanced dementia and a respiratory illness, the court announced in astatement. O Connor was appointed to the court in 1981 by President Ronald Reagan and served until her retirement in 2006. A moderate conservative, O Connor was oftenconsideredthe center of the court s ideological spectrum, and she was the swing vote in a number of major decisions. O Connor was considered the deciding vote in a 2003casethat upheld affirmative action in college admissions, and she routinely upheld the Roe v. Wade decision that established a constitutional right to abortion, in one instancestatingoverturning Roe would deal profound and unnecessary damage to the court s legitimacy, and to the nation s commitment to the rule of law. But she also dealt conservative opinions: She sided with the majority for the 2000 Bush v. Gore case that halted a recount in Florida (though she latersuggestedthe court should have stayed out of the election), voted to uphold a Georgia law that criminalized sodomy and frequently advocated forstates rights. The court has shifted to the political right in the years following O Connor s retirement her successor, Samuel Alito, is more conservative in some cases causing O Connor s rulings to be, as shesaidin 2009, dismantled. Whenaskedhow that made her feel, O Connor responded: What would you feel? I d be a little bit disappointed. In the court s announcement of her death, Chief Justice John Roberts praised O Connor,statingshe blazed an historic trail as our Nation s first female Justice. She met that challenge with undaunted determination, indisputable ability, and engaging candor. Politicians from both parties posted tributes for O Connor on social media. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.)saidO Connor was often the key vote in defending the rights of Americans in protecting clean air, in protecting women's rights, in protecting against discrimination, in protecting voting rights. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.)hailedO Connor as a towering figure in the history of American law, stating she led with brilliance and conviction.

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MacGowan was best known as lead singer of The Pogues. (Photo by Ian Dickson/Redferns)

Redferns

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**Shane Macgowan (november 30)**

Legendary Irish singer-songwriter Shane MacGowan died at age 65, his wife Victoria Mary Clarke announced in anInstagram post. MacGowan was best known as the lead singer of The Pogues, a Celtic punk band founded in London in 1982. The Pogues achieved mainstream success with their unique blend of punk rock and traditional Irish folk songs and instruments. One of their most enduring hits is 1987 s Fairytale of New York, a Christmas song MacGowan co-wrote and sang as a duet with Kirsty MacColl. MacGowan s cause of death has not been announced, but he had been in poor health for years after a long battle with drug and alcohol addiction. He was diagnosed with viral encephalitis, a potentially deadly brain inflammation, in December 2022. Tributes for the legendary punk lyricist came from across Irish and British society, showcasing the artist's wide reach and appeal.Irish President Michael Higginscalled MacGowan one of music s greatest lyricists, and praised his contributions to Irish music and culture at large. His words have connected Irish people all over the globe to their culture and history, encompassing so many human emotions in the most poetic of ways, the president said. Irish Prime Minister Leo Varadkar also praised the singer in apost on X, formerly Twitter: His songs beautifully captured the Irish experience, especially the experience of being Irish abroad.

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Kissinger served as Secretary of State under Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford.

Bettmann Archive

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**Henry Kissinger (november 29)**

Henry Kissinger, the divisive former secretary of state who served under Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford, died Nov. 29 at age 100. Kissinger wielded major influence over American foreign policy for decades and iscreditedwith helping negotiate the end of the Vietnam War. For his efforts in Vietnam, Kissinger wasawardedthe 1973 Nobel Peace Prize alongside North Vietnamese diplomat Le Duc Tho. The decision to award the prize was met with controversy: Thodeclinedto share the prize, stating peace has not yet really been established in South Vietnam, and two members of the Nobel Prize Committee resigned in protest. Kissinger s handling of Vietnam was met with plenty of critics, who accused him and Nixon of needlesslyprolongingthe bloody war that killed more than 58,000 Americans. Hisauthorizationof bombings of Cambodia in 1969 and 1970, which he hoped would eliminate pro-Communist forces, led critics to brand him as a war criminal and argue his actions helped Cambodia fall into the hands of the Khmer Rougeregime, which killed more than 1.7 million Cambodians, then a quarter of the country s population. Kissinger was also known for opening up U.S.relationswith China, paving the way for Nixon s historic visit to the country Kissinger himself hasreportedlyvisited China more than 100 times, including after his tenure. Kissinger alsoemployeda détente approach to Soviet relations, easing tensions during the Cold War, and engaged in shuttle diplomacy toimproverelations between Israel and Arab nations. His approach to foreign policy wasconsidered realpolitik an approach based on pragmatism rather than moral values which was a divisive strategy that critics considered immoral. Kissinger s death was met with tributes from world leaders. ChinamournedKissinger s death, with state media calling him China s old friend and China s Foreign Ministry calling him a pioneer and architect of China-US relations. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin NetanyahusaidKissinger s understanding of international relations was unparalleled. German chancellor Olaf Scholzcalledhim a great diplomat, and Russian President Vladimir PutinconsideredKissinger a wise and talented statesman. But Chile s Ambassador to the United States, Juan Gabriel Valdes, posted on X that Kissinger s brilliance never managed to conceal his profound moral misery. Documents have shown Kissingersupporteda coup in Chile that ushered in a right-wing dictatorship. American politicians many Republicans paidtributeto Kissinger, including former President George W. Bush, Sen. Mitt Romney (R-Utah) and House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-La.). Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.)calledhim "a titan among America s most consequential statesmen.

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Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter and former President Jimmy Carter attend his surprise 70th birthday party in 1994. (Photo By Rick Diamond/Getty Images)

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**Rosalynn Carter (november 19)**

Rosalynn Carter, the former first lady and wife of former President Jimmy Carter,diedSunday at age 96, days after entering hospice care. Carter wasknownas a politically active first lady who frequently advised her husband and advocated for causes including mental health reform. She served as the first lady of Georgia from 1971 to 1975 when her husband served as governor, and first lady of the United States from 1977 to 1981. Asfirst lady, Carter sat in on cabinet meetings, lobbied on behalf of the Mental Health Systems Act of 1980 and served as an honorary member of the President s Commission on Mental Health. She is credited by historians as redefining and formalizing the role of the first lady, becoming thefirstto formally claim office space for herself and her staff, which succeeding first ladies have done. She took a two-week diplomatic trip to several Latin American countries in 1977, which the**New York Times**considereda personal and diplomatic success that goes far beyond the modest expectations of both her foreign policy tutors at the State Department and her hosts. Her active role as first lady led TIME Magazine tocallher the second most powerful person in the United States in 1979. After the Carter presidency, Jimmy and Rosalynn maintained an active lifestyle,foundingthe Carter Center, a human rights nonprofit, and working with Habitat for Humanity to build homes. In their later years, the Carters have both dealt with health issues. Carter s family announced in May the former first lady was living with dementia. Jimmy Carter, who at age 99 is the longest living former president,enteredhospice care in February, several years after beating brain cancer and enduring other health scares. In astatementfollowing his wife s death, the former president said: Rosalynn was my equal partner in everything I ever accomplished. She gave me wise guidance and encouragement when I needed it. As long as Rosalynn was in the world, I always knew somebody loved and supported me. Jimmy Carter had previouslystatedliving into his 90s was difficult, but the secret to keep going was to marry the best spouse.

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Knight set a then-record 902 NCAA Division I game wins at the time of his retirement. (Photo by Manny Millan /Sports Illustrated via Getty Images)

Sports Illustrated via Getty Images

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**Bob Knight (november 1)**

Bob Knight, the iconic basketball coach whose decades-long career made him one of the most successful NCAA coaches of all time, died November 1 at age 83, his family announced in astatementposted to his website Wednesday night. Knight,nicknamed The General, was known for both his successful coaching style and his temper, which earned him many devoted fans and critics. He became the youngest coach at a Division I school in 1965 when he began coaching the Army Black Knights, where he remained until 1971, when he famously begancoachingthe Indiana Hoosiers for three decades. While at Indiana, hecoachedthe team to win a record 661 games and three NCAA titles. In 1976, he won his first NCAA title after Indiana went undefeated the entire season, a featno teamhas accomplished since. Knight alsocoachedthe United States men s basketball team at the 1984 Olympics, leading them to a gold medal victory. Knight remained at Indiana until he wasfiredin 2000, after a student alleged Knight grabbed him by the arm and cursed at him after the student called him by his last name. Indiana had adopted a zero-tolerance policy for Knight after a pattern of behavioral issues, including an allegation made by a student, which was captured on video, that Knight hadchokedhim during a practice. Though Knight said he didn t choke the player, the university suspended him for three games and fined him $30,000. Knight alsothrewa chair across the court during a 1985 game against Purdue and was charged with striking a police officer before a practice session in Puerto Rico in 1979. After his termination from Indiana, Knight coached the Texas Tech Raiders until his retirement in 2008. He finished his career with athen-record902 NCAA Division I game victories and was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame in 1991. The current record-holder for Division I game wins is Mike Krzyzewski, a former player Knight coached at Army. We lost one of the greatest coaches in the history of basketball today, Krzyzewski said in astatement. This is a tremendous loss for our sport and our family is deeply saddened. Knight s family did not specify a cause of death, though Knight washospitalizedwith an unspecified illness for several days in April.

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Matthew Perry died at age 54 on October 28. (Photo by David M. Benett/Dave Benett/Getty Images)

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**Matthew Perry (october 28)**

Best known for his performance as Chandler Bing on the NBC sitcom**Friends**, actor Matthew Perrydiedat his Los Angeles residence on October 28. He was found unresponsive in his hot tub. Perry s role in**Friends**, oneof themost-watchedshows of all time,from 1994 to 2004, garnered anominationfor the Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Comedy Series and in 2021, he was nominated again for his role as executive producer in**Friends: The Reunion**. The final episode of**Friends**was the most watched televisionepisodeof the 2000s. Perry and his**Friends**co-stars, Jennifer Aniston, Lisa Kudrow, Courteney Cox, David Schwimmer and Matt LeBlanc, reunited in 2021 for**Friends: The Reunion**, an HBO Max special that marked hisfinalonscreen appearance. Perry also appeared in shows including**Ally McBeal**,**The Good Wife** and**The West Wing**, earning two Emmy nominations for the latter. Perry was also known for being outspoken about addiction, which he struggled with while starring on**Friends**. He discussed his addiction and recovery in his memoir,**Friends, Lovers, and the Big Terrible Thing,** released in 2022. Hereportedlystarted drinking at 14 and has said he spent at least $7 million on efforts to get sober. Perry hassaidhis paramount thing is that he wants to help people, stating: The best thing about me, bar none, is that if somebody comes to me and says, I can t stop drinking, can you help me? I can say yes and follow up and do it. Tributes to Perry flooded social media following his death. Former classmate and Canadian Prime Minister Justin TrudeausaidPerry s death was shocking and saddening, stating: I ll never forget the schoolyard games we used to play, and I know people around the world are never going to forget the joy he brought them. Other celebrities and former co-stars including Selma Blair and Gwyneth Paltrow paidtributeto Perry on Instagram.**Friends**co-creators Marta Kauffman and David Crane and executive producer Kevin Bright said in a joint statement they are shocked and deeply, deeply saddened by Perry s death, stating they will always cherish the joy, the light, the blinding intelligence he brought to every moment. The Los Angeles County Medical Examiner is investigating Perry s cause of death, which it currentlylistsas deferred.

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Roundtree was best known for his role in "Shaft" (1971). (Photo by Michael Loccisano/Getty Images)

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**Richard Roundtree (october 24)**

Actor Richard RoundtreediedTuesday at age 81 following a battle with pancreatic cancer. Roundtree was best known for his portrayal of private eye John Shaft in the 1971 film**Shaft**, leading him to be known as thefirstBlack action hero.**Shaft**was a hit upon release, grossing $12 million on a $500,000 budget, and it was selected in 2000 for preservation in the United StatesNational Film Registryfor being "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant." Thanks to the success of**Shaft**, which was his first-ever film credit, Roundtree wasnominatedfor the Golden Globe Award for New Star of the Year in 1972. Roundtree starred in two**Shaft**sequels **Shaft s Big Score!**(1972) and**Shaft in Africa**(1973) though neither matched the success of the original. He also led a series of**Shaft**television films on CBS between 1973 and 1974. Roundtree s laterrolesincluded the television miniseries**Roots**(1977), a role opposite Clint Eastwood and Burt Reynolds in**City Heat**(1984) and an appearance in David Fincher s**Seven**(1995). On television, Roundtree appeared in episodes of**Beverly Hills, 90210**,**Desperate Housewives**and**The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air**. Roundtree would laterreprisehis iconic role as John Shaft in two spinoff films, both starring Samuel L. Jackson:**Shaft**(2000) and**Shaft**(2019). In a tribute on Instagram following his death, JacksoncalledRoundtree the prototype and the best to ever do it. Roundtree s manager Patrick McMinn, whoconfirmedhis death to**Variety**, said: Richard s work and career served as a turning point for African American leading men in film. The impact he had on the industry cannot be overstated.

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Suzanne Somers at CNN in Los Angeles, California,

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**Suzanne Somers (october 15)**

Actress and fitness guru Suzanne Somers died on the eve of her 77th birthday after battling an aggressive form of breast cancer for more than 23 years, her publicist told theon Sunday. She first broke into Hollywood by uttering just three words ( I love you ) in George Lucas 1973 comedy**American Graffiti**and was best-known for her role as one of two female leads in**Three's Company**. Her character, Chrissy Snow, was an effervescent blonde known for her unfortunate double-entendres while living with roommates played by Joyce DeWitt and John Ritter. She stared in eight seasons of the sitcom**Step By Step**in the 1990s before making a career switch to the world of personal fitness with the ThighMaster. She and her husband, Alan Hamel,made $300 millionfrom her ThighMaster business, which included two dozen books. She hosted a short-lived talk show on Lifetime called**The Suzanne Show**in 2012 and appeared on**Dancing with the Stars**in 2015.

**Phyllis Coates (october 11)**

Known for her portrayal of Lois Lane on television s**Adventures of Superman** in 1952, making her the first actress to play the iconic character on TV, Coates died of natural causes Wednesday at age 96, her daughter Laura Pressconfirmedto**The Hollywood Reporter**. She only played the role for one season before being replaced by Noel Neill,reportedlybecause of conflicts with producers and other projects she had committed to (the show ran for six seasons before ending in 1958). Coates first assumed the role of Lois Lane in the 1951 film**Superman and the Mole Men**, the first feature film to star the titular hero, or any DC Comics character. Coates began her show business career as a chorus girl, touring with the United Service Organizations to perform for U.S. Armed Forces members, beforelandingsmall roles in films like**Smart Girls Don t Talk**(1948) and**My Foolish Heart**(1949). Coatesstarredin an extensive number of film and television projects throughout the 1950s following her**Superman**success, including**Jungle Drums of Africa**(1952),**Panther Girl of the Kongo**(1954) and**Girls in Prison**(1956). Though she starred in few projects after the 1960s, Coates made her final appearance on screen in**Hollywood: The Movie** (1996), according to herIMDBpage. Coates was portrayed by actress Lorry Ayers in the film(2006), a fictionalized account of the mysterious circumstances of the death of actor George Reeves, who played Superman opposite Coates Lois Lane.

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Feinstein was the longest-serving female senator in U.S. history. (Tom Williams/CQ-Roll Call, Inc via Getty Images)

CQ-Roll Call, Inc via Getty Images

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**Dianne Feinstein (september 28)**

FeinsteindiedThursday night at age 90 as the longest-serving woman in U.S. Senate history. She was elected as California s first female senator in 1992 in a special election (alongside Barbara Boxer, who was elected the same night) and won reelection five times. Feinstein was known for her gun control advocacy andauthoredthe 1994 assault weapons ban (which expired in 2004) and repeatedly pushed for stricter gun laws,statingin 2018 she was a woman on a mission to ban assault weapons. Feinstein hasattributedher gun control efforts to the 1978assassinationsof San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and supervisor Harvey Milk; Feinstein, then the president of San Francisco s Board of Supervisors, was the first to find Milk s body and shortly afterannouncedtheir deaths to the press. After Moscone s death, Feinstein automatically became acting mayor of San Francisco, winning reelection twice and holding that office for a decade. As mayor, Feinstein passed abanon handgun possession and dedicated funding to HIV/AIDSresearch. Feinstein faced numerous healthcomplicationsover the past year, including a bout with shingles that kept her out of the Senate for more than two months, and ensuing encephalitis and vision and balance issues. Feinsteinfaced, and resisted, calls to resign, though she pledged earlier this year not to run for re-election in 2024. Her death promptedtributesfrom politicians on both sides. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer held a moment of silence for Feinstein Friday and called her one of the most amazing people who ever graced the Senate, who ever graced the country. Gov. Gavin Newsom (D-Calif.) called Feinstein a political giant whose tenacity was matched by her grace . . . a dear friend, a lifelong mentor, and a role model not only for me, but to my wife and daughters for what a powerful, effective leader looks like. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) said Feinstein gifted him a depiction of the Capitol in 1992, which he said he looked at Friday morning and remembered our dear colleague as a truly remarkable individual.

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Michael Gambon was known for his role as Albus Dumbledore in the Harry Potter film series. (Photo by Jack Taylor/Getty Images)

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**Michael Gambon (september 28)**

Gambon, an Irish actor best known for playing Professor Albus Dumbledore in six of the eight**Harry Potter**films,diedon September 28 at age 82 after becoming ill with pneumonia. Gambon s career as an actor spanned six decades, beginning with his professional stage debut in a 1962 production of William Shakespeare s**Othello**. He performed on thestagefor much of his early career and earned a Tony Award nomination in 1997 for his performance in**Skylight**. Gambon made hisfilm debutin 1965, also in a production of**Othello**, and has starred in such films as**The Wings of the Dove** (1997),**The Insider**(1999) and**The King s Speech**(2010). He was also renowned for his work on British television, winning fourBAFTA Awardsfor his performances in**The Singing Detective**(1986),**Wives and Daughters**(1999),**Longitude**(2000) and**Perfect Strangers**(2001). Gambonassumedthe role of Dumbledore, the headmaster of Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, in the third film in the series,**Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban** (2004), after the death of Richard Harris in 2002. Gambon played Dumbledore until the conclusion of the series with**Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2**(2011). The official Harry Potter social media accounts paid tribute to Gambon following his death. We are incredibly saddened to hear of the passing of Sir Michael Gambon. He brought immeasurable joy to Harry Potter fans from all over the world with his humour, kindness and grace. We will forever hold his memory in our hearts, the accountpostedon X.

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Actor Billy Miller accepts the Best Supporting Actor In A Drama Series Award onstage at the 37th Annual Daytime Entertainment Emmy Awards held at the Las Vegas Hilton on June 27, 2010 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Miller died on September 15, 2023 at age 43. (Photo by Ethan Miller/Getty Images)

Getty Images

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**Billy Miller (september 15)**

Miller, best known for his roles in**The Young and the Restless**and**General Hospital**, died at 43 in Austin, just two days before his 44th birthday,multiple news outletsreported. In a statement to, Miller s manager said he was struggling with manic depression when he died, though his cause of death hasn t been released. Miller was a daytime television star for years, with his first role being Richie Novak in**All My Children**in 2007. He later went on to win three Daytime Emmys for his work on**The Young and the Restless.** According toIMDb, Miller s last acting appearance was on**NCIS** in 2022.

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<figcaption>

Steve Harwell of Smash Mouth performs during the Under The Sun Tour at The Greek Theatre on August 12, 2014 in Los Angeles, California. (Photo by Tommaso Boddi/WireImage)

WireImage

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**Steve Harwell (september 4)**

Best known as the former lead singer of Smash Mouth, Harwell died of liver failure at age 56. Harwellco-foundedthe rock band in 1994 alongside Kevin Coleman, Greg Camp and Paul De Lisle. The band released its debut album,**Fush Yu Mang**, in 1997, which contained the band s debut single, and its first hit, Walkin' on the Sun, and a cover of War s Why Can t We Be Friends? Greater recognition came with the band s second album,**Astro Lounge**, which has been certified 3x platinum in the United States and contains the band s most well known and onlyGrammy-nominatedtrack, All Star. The song became apopular culture staple, largely thanks to its use in several films, most notably**Shrek**(2001) in which All Star plays over the opening credits. When All Star became the subject of internet parodies nearly two decades after its release, Harwelljokedthat the band had invented the meme. After nearly three decades with the band, Harwell retired in 2021 citing health issues, following aperformancein which he appeared intoxicated, slurred his words, threatened fans and appeared to do what some say looked like a Nazi salute onstage. At the time, Harwell s representatives said videos of the performance were taken out of context and the musician had been battling with cardiomyopathy. Harwell s manager Robert Hayesannouncedhe was receiving hospice care and was expected to have just days to live on September 3; he died the next day. Steve Harwell was a true American Original. A larger than life character who shot up into the sky like a Roman candle. Steve should be remembered for his unwavering focus and impassioned determination to reach the heights of pop stardom, Hayessaidin a statement.

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<figcaption>

Buffett died at age 76 on September 1. (Photo by Tim Mosenfelder/WireImage)

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**Jimmy Buffett (september 1)**

Jimmy Buffett, the musician known for his tropical rock sound, died of a rare form of skin cancer on September 1 at age 76. Buffett was most widely known for his hit song Margaritaville, an ode to the cocktail and island relaxation, which he capitalized on and turned into a billion-dollar fortune. In 1985, BuffettturnedMargaritaville into a business empire, first launching retail stores and merchandise lines and ultimately opening a restaurant chain and resorts inspired by his biggest hit. At the time of his death,**Forbes**estimated Buffett snet worthto be $1 billion. Buffett was also known for his other hits, like Cheeseburger in Paradise and It's Five O'Clock Somewhere. Tributes to Buffett poured in on social media shortly after his death, including tributes fromPresident Joe Biden, formerPresident Bill ClintonandPaul McCartney. Jimmy passed away peacefully on the night of September 1st surrounded by his family, friends, music and dogs, a statement posted toBuffett s websitesays. He lived his life like a song till the very last breath and will be missed beyond measure by so many.

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<figcaption>

Bob Barker during "The Price is Right" 34th Season Premiere - Taping at CBS Television City in Los Angeles, California, United States.

WireImage

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**Bob Barker (august 26)**

Bob Barker, who hosted mid-day game show The Price Is Right from 1972 until his retirement in 2007, died on Saturday, according to his publicist Roger Neal. He was 99. In a statement, Neal called Barker the World s Greatest MC who ever lived. Barker got his start in showbusiness in the 1950s, becoming the host of Truth or Consequences in 1956, and hosting the game show for 20 seasons through 1975. He was awarded the world record for consecutive appearance hosting game shows by the Guinness Book of World Records with more than 6,800 episodes (late Jeopardy! host Alex Trebek surpassed him in 2014). Barker, who handed the reigns of the show to Drew Carey in 2007, has received 19 Daytime Emmy Awards, as well as an Emmy Award for Lifetime Achievement. He was inducted into the Television Academy Hall of Fame in 2004.

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<figcaption>

Clarence Avant died on August 13, 2023.

(Photo by Mark Von Holden/Invision/AP, File)

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**Clarence Avant (august 13)**

Avant, who had the unofficial title of godfather of Black entertainment, died Sunday in his home in Los Angeles at the age of 92,multiple outletsreported. His family, who announced the news in a statement, did not provide a cause of death. Avant s influence spread from music where he started labels and managed musicians to sports, where he produced a television special for Muhammad Ali and helped athletes like Hank Aaron secure partnerships, the Associated Pressreported. In the political world, Avant served as an unofficial, and sometimes official, adviser to Presidents Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton, George Bush and Barack Obama,**Variety**reported. Despite his various pursuits, he was most known for his role as a mentor in the entertainment industry. In 2021, Lionel Richie inducted Avant into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and he was awarded the Industry Icon Award at the Grammys.

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Actor Mark Margolis had a late career renaissance playing drug lord Hector Salamanca in smash hits "Breaking Bad" and "Better Call Saul."

getty

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**Mark Margolis (august 3)**

Margolis, best known for his role as Mexican cartel boss Hector Salamanca in director Vince Gilligan s hit series**Breaking Bad**, passed away on August 3 at New York City s Mt. Sinai Hospital, his son Morgan Margolis announced on Friday,multiple outletsreported. He was 83. Margolis, whose credits include the Al Pacino thriller**Scarface**(1983) and the Jared Leto and Jennifer Connelly mind-bender **Requiem for a Dream**(2000), was nominated for an Emmy Award in 2012 for outstanding guest actor in a drama series for his role in AMC s**Breaking Bad**, and reprised the role in the Bob Odenkirk-led prequel**Better Call Saul**.

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Angus Cloud attends the 2022 Vanity Fair Oscar Party hosted by Radhika Jones at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts on March 27, 2022 in Beverly Hills, California. (Photo by Dimitrios Kambouris/WireImage)

WireImage

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**Angus Cloud (announced July 31)**

Cloud, a young actor best known for his role in**Euphoria**as warmhearted drug dealer Fezco, died at the age of 25, according to a statement from his family reported bymultiple outlets. The statement from Cloud s family did not make clear when the actor passed, nor the nature of his death. However, the family noted Cloud recently buried his father and intensely struggled with the loss. The only comfort we have is knowing Angus is now reunited with his dad, who was his best friend, the statement said, adding Cloud was open about his battle with mental health. Cloud s role as Fezco, a protective and considerate drug dealer that befriends Zendaya s**Euphoria** character, Rue Bennett, was lauded by fans as one of the show's more likable characters. The teen drama won nine Emmy Awards of the 25 distinctions it was nominated for. Cloud has acting credits for**North Hollywood** and**The Line** and music video roles with artists likeBecky Gand the later rapperJuice WRLD. Cloud was also cast this year for anupcoming horror moviefrom the directors of**Scream VI.**  We hope the world remembers him for his humor, laughter and love for everyone. We ask for privacy at this time as we are still processing this devastating loss, Cloud s family said in their statement.

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Paul Reubens attends the AOL Build Speaker Series to discuss "Pee-wee's Big Holiday" at AOL Studios on March 25, 2016 in New York City. (Photo by Jamie McCarthy/Getty Images)

Getty Images

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**Paul Reubens (july 30)**

Reubens, an actor and comedian best known for his Pee-wee Herman character, died on July 30 at age 70, his official Pee-wee Herman Instagram accountconfirmedon Monday. Reubens began his career in the 1970s, performing at comedy clubs andjoiningthe comedy troupe The Groundlings as an improv actor. He came up with the Pee-wee Herman character while a member of the Groundlings in 1978, soondeveloping The Pee-wee Herman Show, a stage production that ran for five sold-out months and landed Reubens his own HBO special. The character soon became a hit franchise:**Pee-wee s Big Adventure** and **Big Top Pee-wee,** two feature films, were released in 1985 and 1988, respectively, and the children s show**Pee-wee s Playhouse**ran on CBS between 1986 and 1990. The Pee-wee Herman character was retired for years after Reubens wasarrestedin 1991 for indecent exposure at an adult movie theater. Later that decade, Reubens appeared in several high-profile projects unaffiliated with Pee-wee Herman, such as the 1999 film**Mystery Men** and the 2001 film**Blow**. Reubens would later revive Pee-wee Herman for a 2010 Broadway show,**The Pee-wee Herman Show,** and**Pee-wee's Big Holiday,** a 2016 Netflix film. Reubens died after a private battle with cancer, issuing a posthumous apology on hisInstagramfor not publicly addressing his health struggles. The announcement of his death on his Instagram referred to Reubens as an iconic American actor, comedian, writer and producer whose beloved character Pee-wee Herman delighted generations of children and adults with his positivity, whimsy and belief in the importance of kindness.

<figure>

<figcaption>

O'Connor performs at Paradiso, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 16 March 1988. (Photo by Paul Bergen/Redferns)

Redferns

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**Sinead O connor (july 26)**

The Irish singer, known for her rendition of the Prince song Nothing Compares 2 U and her politically outspoken views, died at age 56, her family told theBBC. O Connortopped chartsaround the world, including in her home country for 11 weeks and the United States for four weeks, with Nothing Compares 2 U in 1990, which earned her three Grammy nominations. The song was just as famous for itsmusic video, which is almost entirely shot as a close-up of O Connor s face while she sings. The video won the MTV Video Music Award for Video of the Year. O Connor released her first of 10 studio albums,**The Lion and the Cobra**, in 1987, and her final album,**I m Not Bossy, I m the Boss**, in 2014. O Connor was widely known for hercontroversialdecision to tear up a picture of Pope John Paul II during her 1992**Saturday Night Live**performance of Bob Marley s War, which she opted to sing in protest of child sexual abuse in the Catholic Church. O Connor would defend her actions for decades after the incident,writingin her 2021 autobiography**Rememberings**: Everyone wants a pop star, see? But I am a protest singer. I just had stuff to get off my chest. O Connor was also open about hermental healthstruggles, which included a post-traumatic stress disorder diagnosis and the cancelation of her 2012 tour because of a breakdown. She suffered the tragiclossof her 17-year-old son, Shane, in January 2022, who was found dead after going missing. She canceled her planned concerts in 2022 due to ongoing grief over her son s death. O Connor issurvivedby three children. It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved Sinéad, O Connor s familysaidin a statement. Her family and friends are devastated and have requested privacy at this very difficult time.

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<figcaption>

Tony Bennet performs at the Royal Albert Hall on April 29, 2007 in London, England. (Photo by Jo Hale/Getty Images)

Getty Images

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**Tony Bennett (july 21)**

The iconic jazz singer, known for his long career and performing well into his 90s, died July 21 in New York City.Praisedfor his warm and charismatic persona as well as his interpretations of the Great American Songbook, Bennett s career spanned more than 70 years and more than 60 albums, beginning with**Because of You**in 1951. The albumlandedhim his first two No. 1 singles: Because of You and Cold, Cold Heart. He continued to release classic hit songs, like Rags to Riches and Stranger in Paradise in 1953 and I Left My Heart in San Francisco in 1962, which won Bennett his first two Grammy Awards. After some years of struggle, starting in the 1960s as rock and roll music took over the charts and he split with his record label, Columbia Records, in 1971, Bennett saw aresurgencein the 1980s after his son took over managing his career, landing him television spots like**The David Letterman Show**and the MTV Video Music Awards which would connect him with a younger audience. A recording of Bennett s 1994 performance on MTV Unplugged won him the Grammy for Album of the Year. In later years, Bennett became known for his collaborations with younger artists, most notably Lady Gaga, with whom he released two albums **Cheek to Cheek**in 2014 and**Love for Sale**in 2021 the former a collection of jazz standards, and the latter a Cole Porter tribute album. Bennett s final performance was with Gaga in 2021 at a Radio City Music Hall show called One Last Time. Though Bennett performed until 2021, his wife, Susan Bennett,revealedthat year he had been diagnosed with Alzheimer s five years earlier. Bennettwon19 competitive Grammy Awards throughout his career and received a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award in 2001.

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<figcaption>

Alan Arkin attends the ceremony honoring him with a Star on The Hollywood Walk of Fame held on June 7, 2019. (Photo by Michael Tran/FilmMagic)

FilmMagic

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**Alan Arkin (june 30)**

The actor, whose career on screen and stage spanned eight decades, died at his California home on June 29. Arkin won an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor for one of his best known roles in the 2006 film**Little Miss Sunshine**. His first of more than 100 acting credits, according to hisIMDB page, was an uncredited appearance in the 1957 film,**Calypso Heat Wave**. He s since starred in a number of acclaimed and beloved projects, garnering additional Oscar nominations for**The Russians Are Coming, the Russians Are Coming**(1966),**The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter**(1968) and**Argo**(2012). Among his final, most notable roles was the Netflix series**The Kominsky Method**, for which he received two consecutive Emmy nominations. Arkin was a prolific stage actor and director earlier in his career, and won a Tony Award in 1963 for starring in**Enter Laughing**and earned another nomination 10 years later, this time for directing**The Sunshine Boys**. Arkin was known for both his comedic strengths and his dramatic skill, and in 2018, hereleasedwhat he considers a mini-memoir, **Out of My Mind**, which he said explores an adventurous other side of me. I m very proud of it. The next year, Arkin washonoredwith a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. In a joint statement, Arkin s sons, Adam, Matthew and Anthony mourned the loss of their father and celebrated his legacy as an actor: Our father was a uniquely talented force of nature, both as an artist and a man. A loving husband, father, grand and great grandfather, he was adored and will be deeply missed.

<figure>

<figcaption>

Daniel Ellsberg at a conference.

Bettmann Archive

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**Daniel Ellsberg (june 16)**

Former military analyst Daniel Ellsberg died at the age of 92 on June 16. Ellsberg was an analyst for the Secretary of Defense Robert Namara s report on the Vietnam War, which later became known as the Pentagon Papers. Because he thought the war was immoral and unwinnable, Ellsberg, along with Anthony Russo,copiedall 7,000 pages of the Pentagon Papers and leaked it to the**New York Times**. But after publishing a first part of its series, President Richard Nixon took executive action to prevent it, and the courts granted an injunction against the**Times,** though ultimatelythe Supreme Court took the paper s side in a 6-3 decision largely considered a major First Amendment victory for journalists. The**Times**published the papers which described how the scope of the Vietnam War had secretly broadened and had become far more deadly under President Lyndon Johnson sending the country into a frenzy, helping further erode the public s support for the war. Ellsberg finally surrendered to authorities on June 28, 1971, to which the Nixon administration brought criminal charges of espionage, conspiracy and other crimes against him and Russo. But the trial judge threw Ellsberg s case out, considering it a mistrial for wiretapping implications. Ellsberg spent much of the rest of his life as prominent anti-war activist. He died in his home in California due to pancreatic cancer, after beingdiagnosedearlier this year, according to**The Washington Post**.

<figure>

<figcaption>

English actress Glenda Jackson in her dressing room at the Martin Beck Theatre during the Broadway run of the Royal Shakespeare Company's production of 'Marat/Sade', New York, 12th April 1966.

Getty Images

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**Glenda Jackson (june 15)**

English actress and politician Glenda Jackson died on June 15 at the age of 87. Jackson is a two-timeOscar winner, winning the award of best actress in a leading role for the films**A Touch of Class** (1973) and**Women in Love** (1969)**.** She s also a Golden Globe and two-time Emmy winner, winning awards for her roles in**A Touch of Class** and the show,**Elizabeth R** (1971)**,** respectively. But after decades as one of the finest actresses of her generation, she went on torunfor U.K. Parliament representing Labor in 1992 and won, staying in office until 2015, and spending over 20 years as a lawmaker and a minister of transport in Prime Minister Tony Blair s first government in 1997. The actress-turned politician returned to acting shortly after her departure from ***politics***, playing title character in Shakespeare s**King Lear,** which opened at London s Old Vic in 2016 and later played on Broadway. She also went on to star in her first film in a quarter-century, winning a BAFTA for her performance in**Elizabeth is Missing** in 2020**.** Jackson s agentconfirmedto CNN that she died peacefully in her sleep in her home in London after a brief battle with an unknown illness.

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<figcaption>

Writer Cormac McCarthy attends the HBO Films & The Cinema Society screening of "Sunset Limited" after party.

WireImage

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**Cormac Mccarthy (june 13)**

Author Cormac McCarthy, a great American novelist known for his portrayals of an often bleak, dystopian America often set in the West, died at the age 89 on June 13. Born in Providence, Rhode Island, McCarthy is best known for his novels**All the Pretty Horses** (1992),**No Country for Old Men** (2005) and**The Road** (2006)**.** His 12 novels earned many awards, including the 2007 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction for**The Road,** while thefilm based on his novel**No Country for Old Men** wonan Oscar for best picture, best director, best supporting actor and best screenplay in 2009. His first commercially successful novel,**All the Pretty Horses,** wonthe National Book Award in 1992, and was later adapted to film. McCarthy s son, Jon McCarthy, confirmed his death by natural causes through Penguin Random House, McCarthy s publisher.

<figure>

<figcaption>

Tina Turner performs at Shoreline Amphitheatre.

Getty Images

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**Tina Turner (may 24)**

Oftendubbedthe Queenof Rock n Roll by the media, singer Tina Turner died at age 83 on May 24. Turner rose to prominence as one-half of the Ike & Tina Turner Revue, a musical duo with her ex-husband known for songs like Proud Mary. Turner was married to Ike Turner for sixteen years, whom shesaidwas emotionally and physically abusive. After the duo split up in 1976 and the couple divorced in 1978, Turnercontinueda successful solo career, producing hits like What s Love Got To Do With It, Better Be Good To Me and We Don't Need Another Hero (Thunderdome). Turner s life and career inspired a biographical drama film,**What s Love Got To Do With It**(1993), starring Angela Bassett as the singer. The musical**Tina**, chronicling the singer s life set to her hit songs, hit both Broadway and the West End, and an Emmy-nominated documentary**Tina**premiered in 2021.**Rolling Ston**erankedTurner the 55th greatest singer of all time in January. She hasreportedlysold more than 100 million records,woneight Grammy Awards and received a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award. Turner died after a long illness in her home in Küsnacht, near Zurich, Switzerland, her representativesaid.

<figure>

<figcaption>

Jim Brown during the 50th Annual San Francisco International Film Festival . (Photo by Albert Chau/FilmMagic)

FilmMagic

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**Jim Brown (may 18)**

Brown,regardedas one of the greatest football players of all time, died at age 87 on May 18. He played nine seasons for the Cleveland Browns between 1957 and 1965 and led the league forrushingfor eight of those, rushing 12,312 yards and holding a 5.2 yards per carry average over his career. He led the team to an NFL Championship victory in 1964 before retiring the next year to turn to acting. He has more than 50 credits as an actor, according toIMDB, andledsuch films as**100 Rifles** (1969) with Racquel Welch who also died this year in which they performed one of the first interracial love scenes. Brown was also known as a civil rights advocate: In 1988, hefounded Amer-I-Can, a foundation aiming to stop gang violence in inner cities and give young Black people better economic opportunities. He wasinductedto the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1971, his first year of eligibility. To the world he was an activist, actor and football star. To our family, he was a loving and wonderful husband, father, and grandfather, his wife, Monique Brown, wrote in anInstagram postannouncing his death. The Cleveland Browns paidtributeto Brown on Twitter, stating: We mourn his passing, but celebrate the indelible light he brought to the world.

<figure>

<figcaption>

Zeman at the premiere of "The Bay" Season 3 on October 23, 2017. (Photo by Greg Doherty/Getty Images)

Getty Images

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**Jacklyn Zeman (may 9)**

A fixture on soap opera**General Hospital** for more than four decades, Zemandiedafter a short battle with cancer on May 9 at age 70. Zeman played the role of nurse Bobbie Spencer for 45 years on the show and received four Daytime Emmy nominations, as well as a fifth in 2021 for her role on**The Bay**. She was one of**General Hospital** s longest-running cast members and has appeared in more than 900 episodes. Executive producer Frank Valentini announced her death on Twitter,callingher a bright light and true professional that brought so much positive energy with her to work. In an interview with**TV Insider** in December, reflecting on her almost half century on the show, Zeman called her character, who came from a troubled background, never evil but she was naughty and did not know how to trust others. She credited her long tenure on the show and**General Hopsital** s enduring popularity to the show s fans. Fans sent me baby blankets for when my daughters were born, Zeman said. People will show me photos of when they met me 25 years ago.

<figure>

<figcaption>

Springer at AOL Build in New York on May 19, 2016. (Photo by Slaven Vlasic/Getty Images)

Getty Images

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**Jerry Springer (april 27)**

Springer, best known as the politician-turned-host of The Jerry Springer Show, died on April 27 at 79 in Evanston, Illinois. He had a brief but controversial career in ***politics***, winning election to the Cincinnati City Council in 1971 before resigning just three years later after admitting to paying prostitutes. He returned to ***politics*** the next year, winning re-election to the council, and served one year as mayor in 1977. He then turned to radio and television, hosting his eponymous daytime talk show from 1991 to 2018, which became a ratings hit for its shock value, its controversial subjects, and is credited with ushering a cruder, ruder form of reality television. Some of Springer s most shocking segments have gone viral on his YouTube channel in the years since they ve aired. In his most-viewed segment on YouTube Real Girlfriend Vs. Online Girlfriend, which has 43 million views Springer introduces a man having an online love affair to his internet girlfriend, whom he had never met before, with his real-life girlfriend present. The 12-minute segment culminated in shouting matches and fist-fights between the two women. Springer s other most-viewed segments are just as melodramatic, including one segment viewed 18 million times where a woman finds out her boyfriend cheated on her with her co-worker, and another viewed 13 million times in which a woman s stepmother made advances toward the woman s boyfriend (both segments resulted in fist-fights). Months before his death, Springer jokingly apologized about the lasting influence of his show. I m so sorry. What have I done? I ve ruined the culture, he said on David Yontef s**Behind the Velvet Rope**podcast. I just hope hell isn t that hot because I burn real easy. Springer died of pancreatic cancer, his spokesperson confirmed after his death.

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<figcaption>

Belafonte in a recording studio in 1957. (Photo by Archive Photos/Hulton Archive/Getty Images)

Getty Images

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**Harry Belafonte (april 25)**

Belafonte died of congestive heart failure on April 25 at age 96. The actor-singer achieved wide popularity in the 1950s, breaking racial barriers at a time when segregation still consumed the nation. His 1956 album,**Calypso**, was reportedly the first album by a single artist to sell more than one million copies.**Calypso**topped the Billboard charts for 31 weeks and contains hits including Day-O (The Banana Boat Song) and Jamaica Farewell. Belafonte became one of the first people to have won each of the four major entertainment awards an Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony though his Oscar was won in a noncompetitive category. He was a friend of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and a major civil rights activist, providing money to get King and other activists out of jail, and taking part in the March on Washington in 1963. Belafonte said he was initially optimistic about the fight for civil rights, but said he became more cautious after marchers were met with tear gas and clubs and killing and Kent State and an intensification of the Vietnam War. Decades later, as the Black Lives Matter movement grew in response to police killings and brutality of Black individuals, Belafonte expressed disappointment about the progress of civil rights: When I took up with Martin, I really thought, two, at best three years this should be over. Fifty years later, he s dead and gone, and the Supreme Court just reversed voting rights, and the police are shooting us down dead in the streets.

<figure>

<figcaption>

Reddick at 'The IMDb Show' on June 19, 2019 in Studio City, California. (Photo by Rich Polk/Getty Images for IMDb)

Getty Images for IMDb

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**Lance Reddick (march 17)**

Reddick, an actor known for starring in**The Wire** and the**John Wick** franchise, died on March 17 at age 60. He worked small but vivid roles on television series like**Law & Order** and**The West Wing** before landing his main role as Baltimore police officer Cedric Daniels on HBO s**The Wire**, oftenconsideredone of thegreatesttelevision series of all time. He most recently appeared in**John Wick: Chapter 4**, a box office his that sgrossedmore than $400 million worldwide. He reportedly died of heart disease, according to a death certificate obtained byTMZ, though his family and family attorney havedisputedthis claim, calling it inconsistent with his physically fit lifestyle. Shortly before his death, Reddick taped aninterviewfor**The Kelly Clarkson Show**, which aired the week after Reddick died. He appeared with**John Wick** co-stars Keanu Reeves and Ian McShane, calling the film stunningly gorgeous and praising its theme of family. At the premiere of**John Wick: Chapter 4**just days after Reddick s death, Reeves called Reddick a beautiful person and special artist and expressed his gratitude for being able to work with him on the**John Wick** films for ten years. Attendees at thepremierewere given blue ribbon pins to wear in honor of Reddick, and the screening began with a standing ovation in the actor s memory.

<figure>

<figcaption>

Caldwell performing onstage at the Soul Train Awards on November 8, 2013. (Photo by Ethan Miller/BET/Getty Images for BET)

Getty Images for BET

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**Bobby Caldwell (march 14)**

Caldwell, who had a successful decades-long career as a singer, died on March 14 at age 71. Caldwell was known for his work in the R&B, soul and jazz genres, including his most famous, widely covered hit single, What You Won t Do For Love. Artists who sampled or covered that song include Tupac Shakur, Natalie Cole, Peabo Bryson, Boyz II Men, Jessie Ware and English pop group Go West. His debut album**Bobby Caldwell**, released in 1978,went double-platinum in the United States, propelling him to fame. Caldwell s influence on music was evident as tributes from admirers poured in after his death. On Instagram, musician Questloveexpresseddisappointment he never got to meet Caldwell, calling him the closing chapter in a generation in which record execs wanted to hide faces on album covers so perhaps maybe their artist could have a chance, a reference to how Caldwell s face wasconcealedon his debut album cover so his racial ambiguity would increase the amount of radio stations that would play his music. Caldwell is white, but myths persisted that he was Black. Also on Instagram, Chance the Rapper shared a screenshot of a text exchange between him and Caldwell in which he asked for Caldwell s permission to sample a song. I ll be honored if you sample my song, Caldwellwrote. Rapper Common, who has also sampled Caldwell s music,postedon Instagram: I can t thank you enough!

<figure>

<figcaption>

Welch in the film "Shout Loud, Louder, I Can't Hear You."

Bettmann Archive

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**Raquel Welch (february 15)**

Welch, who rose to fame as a sex symbol and actress in the 1960s, died on February 15 at age 82. She became known for her role as a cavewoman in**One Million Years B.C.** (1966), a box-office success thatrocketedher to fame in part because of her doe-skin bikini that adorned best-selling posters. She starred in such films as**Fantastic Voyage** (1966),**Myra Breckinridge** (1970),**The Last of Sheila**(1973) and**The Wild Party** (1975), and she won a Golden Globe for her role in**The Three Musketeers** (1973). In 1998,**Playboy** namedWelch the No. 3 sexiest star of the 20th century, just behind Marilyn Monroe and Jayne Mansfield. Welch is also known forsuinga major Hollywood studio for age discrimination and winning. After she was abruptly fired from**Cannery Row** in 1981, allegedly because her insistence on doing her own hair and makeup at home violated her contract, MGM replaced her with Debra Winger, an actress 15 years her junior. Welch filed a $24 million lawsuit, stating: What they did was use me to get financing for the movie, then they dumped me for Debra, which they d been planning all along. The jury sided with Welch, who was awarded more than $10 million, and the verdict was upheld in an appeals court years later.

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<figcaption>

Bacharach at at the Glastonbury Festival on June 27, 2015. (Photo by Samir Hussein/Redferns via Getty Images)

Redferns via Getty Images

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**Burt Bacharach (february 8)**

One of the most important pop songwriters of the 20th Century, the composer and songwriterdiedat age 94 at his home in Los Angeles. He was known for his pop song compositions, many of which he collaborated with co-writer Hal David and singer Dionne Warwick. He wrote at least 52 top 40 hits, according to hiswebsite, including No. 1 hits like This Guy s in Love With You, sung by Herb Alpert, and That s What Friends Are For, sung first by Rod Stewart and then by Warwick to raise funds for AIDS research. Other artists Bacharach wrote or produced for include Aretha Franklin, Barbra Streisand, Natalie Cole, Elvis Costello and Patti LaBelle. He won three Academy Awards two for best original song, and one for best score as well as six Grammy Awards and one Emmy Award. Bacharach has frequently been honored as one of the greatest songwriters of the 20th century and of all time. He wasinductedinto the Songwriter s Hall of Fame in 1972 andwona Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award in 2008. In 2015,**Rolling Stone** rankedBacharach and David as the 32nd-best songwriters of all time, praising David s knack for matching wistful sentiments to Bacharach's unconventional jazz chords and constantly shifting time signatures. Warwicksaidin a statement Bacharach s death felt like losing a family member. On Twitter, Paul McCartneypraisedBacharach s work as distinctive and different from others in the 1960s and 1970s, calling him an inspiration.

<figure>

<figcaption>

Williams at her house in Los Angeles on April 24, 1985. (Photo by Bob Riha, Jr./Getty Images)

Getty Images

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**Cindy Williams (january 25)**

Williams, best known for her role as Shirley in the hit sitcom**Laverne & Shirley**,diedon January 25 at age 75 following a brief illness. She starred on**Laverne & Shirley** from 1976 to 1982, appearing in 158 episodes, according to IMDB, and earned a Golden Globe nomination. Garry Marshall firstpitchedthe show to ABC, recalling in 2000 there were no shows about blue-collar girls on the air. Williams was well known for her chemistry with co-star Penny Marshall, who died in 2013. Williams said the two had a sort of telepathy,stating: If there were an Olympic event for comedy, I think we'd take the gold. The two secured starring roles in their own show after becoming fan favorites as minor characters on the sitcom**Happy Days.** Williams successful run on**Laverne & Shirley** endedearly: She was pregnant at the time and her character was written off the show, leaving Laverne on her own for much of the final season. She sued Paramount for $20 million to be paid for the episodes she would miss; the case was settled out of court for an unknown amount.Though Williams was best known for her sitcom work, she had a successful film career. She starred in three particularly acclaimed films from important directors: George Cukor s**Travels with My Aunt** (1972), George Lucas s**American Graffiti** (1973) and Francis Ford Coppola s**The Conversation** (1974).

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Crosby at the 62nd Annual GRAMMY Awards on January 26, 2020. (Photo by Emma McIntyre/Getty Images for The Recording Academy)

Getty Images for The Recording Academy

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**David Crosby (january 18)**

The musician died of Covid-19 complications on January 18 at age 81. He rose to fame as a member of two rock bands: The Byrds and later Crosby, Stills & Nash (and later, Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young). His popularity in the 1960s and 1970s made him an icon of Americancounterculture, with lyrics that opposed the war in Vietnam. One of his songs, Wooden Ships, waswrittenat the height of the Vietnam War and described the consequences of an apocalyptic war. Among the lyrics are descriptions of terror and dehumanization amid war: Horror grips us as we watch you die / All we can do is echo your anguished cries / Stare as all human feelings die. His activism extended well beyond the peak of his musical career. He tweeted opposition to the Vietnam War as recently as 2020,stating: More than 50k American young guys DIED for that mistake. With The Byrds, Crosby sbiggest hitson the Billboard charts include Turn! Turn! Turn! (To Everything There Is a Season) and Mr. Tambourine Man, a Bob Dylan cover. With Crosby, Stills & Nash, his biggest hits are Wasted On the Way and Just a Song Before I Go. He was inducted to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame twice, as a member of both of his rock bands, and he had a prolific solo career, releasing his final album in 2021.

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Presley at the NARM Music Biz Awards Dinner Party on May 10, 2012. (Photo by Michael Tran/FilmMagic)

FilmMagic

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**Lisa Marie Presley (january 12)**

Presley, a singer and the daughter of Elvis Presley,diedon January 12 at age 54 of caridac arrest. TK. Presley embarked on a music career and released three albums. Her debut album,**To Whom It May Concern**, released in 2003 and charted in the top 5 in the United States. She was also well known for her brief marriage to Michael Jackson from 1994 to 1996, eloping with him less than three weeks after she finalized her divorce to Danny Keough. The relationship attracted media attention: Presleydeniedallegations that the marriage was a publicity stunt, and Jacksonreportedlydepended on Presley for support as accusations of child molestation were made against him during their relationship. Presley also appeared in the video for Jackson s single, You Are Not Alone. Presley s final public appearance had been just two days earlier at the Golden Globe Awards, where the film**Elvis**, a biographical drama about her father s life, was nominated for multiple awards. She wasburiedat Graceland her father s mansion which is now a museum next to her son, Benjamin Keough, who died in 2020 at age 27. Presley is survived by three children, including Riley Keough, an actress who most recently starred in**Daisy Jones & The Six**.

**Further Reading**

The Billionaires Who Died In 2022(Forbes)

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