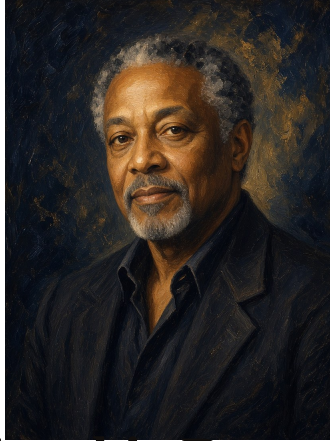




Frankie Beverly

December 6, 1946 - September 10, 2024

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Frankie Beverly, the Philadelphia soul singer who led Maze through decades of quiet-storm anthems and reunion-tour devotion, died in Philadelphia on September 10, 2024. He was seventy-seven.

Born Howard Stanley Beverly on December 6, 1946, in Philadelphia, he sang doo-wop and soul on the East Coast before moving the band west and renaming it Maze featuring Frankie Beverly. Golden Time of Day, Joy and Pain, Before I Let Go, and We Are One became picnic, cookout, and wedding standards - songs that treated adult Black joy as a subject worth arranging with care. He rarely chased crossover novelty; the audience came to him and stayed.

White suits, a raised arm, and a band that could stretch a groove without losing the lyric were his trademarks. Later generations sampled and covered the catalog; Beyoncé's Renaissance tour salute to Before I Let Go reminded a wider public what picnic playlists had known for years. He announced farewell touring in the 2020s while the voice still carried.

He died in his hometown on September 10, 2024. The records remain built for dancing in daylight, which is rarer than heartbreak and just as American.

Services

Died in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on September 10, 2024. Singer and bandleader of Maze featuring Frankie Beverly.

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