



Jack Leonard Warner

August 2, 1892 - September 9, 1978

Los Angeles, California

Jack Leonard Warner died in Los Angeles on September 9, 1978. He was eighty-six. Born in London, Ontario, on August 2, 1892, to a family that would Americanize its name and its ambitions, he became the public face of Warner Bros. - the youngest of four brothers who turned nickelodeon hustle into a major studio.

Warner Bros. bet early on sound with *The Jazz Singer*, built a reputation for gangster pictures and social dramas, and ran a lot like a factory with better lighting. Jack, as production chief and later studio boss, was blunt, theatrical, and often at odds with the siblings who had built the company beside him. The battles were familial and corporate at once; Hollywood remembered the quips and the firings in equal measure.

Under the Warner banner came *Casablanca*, a deep bench of stars, and a house style that mixed grit with gloss. Jack's later years included the sale of control and the long afterlife of a name on a water tower. Canadian birth, California power: the hyphen is the point. He helped invent the American studio system as a place where immigrants' children ran the dream machine.

Home of Peace holds the grave. The lot still carries the surname.

Services

Died in Los Angeles on September 9, 1978. Interment at Home of Peace Memorial Park, East Los Angeles.

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