



Robert Wise

September 10, 1914 - September 14, 2005

Los Angeles, California

Robert Wise, the American film director and editor whose *West Side Story* and *The Sound of Music* won Best Picture Oscars and whose earlier cuts helped shape *Citizen Kane*, died in Los Angeles on September 14, 2005. He was ninety-one - four days after his birthday. The r?sum? stretched from Val Lewton horror to science fiction (*The Day the Earth Stood Still*, *Star Trek: The Motion Picture*) with a craftsman's refusal to be trapped by one genre's prestige.

Born in Winchester, Indiana, on September 10, 1914, he entered RKO as a sound and editing apprentice, cut *Kane* and *The Magnificent Ambersons* under Orson Welles's shadow, and stepped into directing through lean thrillers before musicals made him a household name. He shared the *West Side Story* directing credit with Jerome Robbins; *The Sound of Music* became a commercial mountain that later taste sometimes mocked and audiences never abandoned. Guild leadership and a reputation for calm sets rounded a career that treated collaboration as the point of the industrial art.

He died in Los Angeles on September 14, 2005. The hills were alive on DVD; the editor's discipline remained the quieter inheritance.

Wise's memorial is range: he could scare, sing, and speculate without changing his basic faith that clarity serves emotion. Indiana boyhood and RKO apprenticeship never left the frames - he cut for story first, spectacle second. Notice Nearby marks the death date on a September 14 already thick with American names, so the director who began in the cutting room is not remembered only as a tourist soundtrack.

Services

Died in Los Angeles, California, September 14, 2005. Film director and editor; Academy Award winner; buried at Hollywood Forever Cemetery.

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