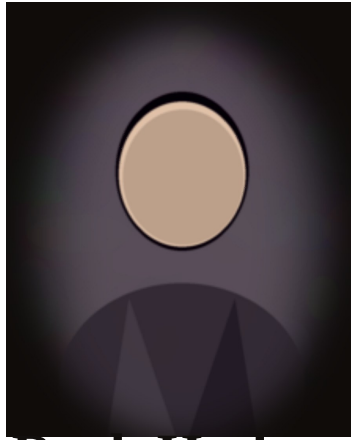




Rock Hudson

November 17, 1925 - October 2, 1985

Beverly Hills, California

Rock Hudson - born Roy Harold Scherer Jr., American film and television star whose leading-man fame later forced the country to speak the word AIDS aloud - died at his home in Beverly Hills, California, on October 2, 1985. He was fifty-nine. Born November 17, 1925, in Winnetka, Illinois, he served in the U.S. Navy in World War II, then became one of Hollywood's most bankable faces through dramas, comedies, and the long run of *Giant*, *Pillow Talk*, and later television.

His public disclosure of AIDS-related illness in 1985 changed what magazines and living rooms were willing to say. He died in his sleep at home in Beverly Hills; his ashes were later scattered at sea. The star system that once protected secrets also, through him, cracked open a harder public conversation.

Illinois gave him the Midwestern frame; Hollywood gave him the name the world used. He worked as if glamour and courage could share a frame.

He died in Beverly Hills on October 2, 1985. Somewhere a late-night rerun still shows the smile that sold tickets.

Hudson's gift was screen presence with civic aftermath - making a private illness a public reckoning. Notice Nearby keeps the death date so October 2 remembers the Illinois-born star who changed what America dared to name.

Services

Died in Beverly Hills, California, October 2, 1985. Film and television actor; Golden Age leading man; U.S. Navy veteran; AIDS awareness landmark death.

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