

# Queen Elizabeth, Albright among influential people lost

By **Bernard McGhee**  
*The Associated Press*

One would have to go back hundreds of years to find a monarch who reigned longer than Queen Elizabeth II.

In her 70 years on the throne, she helped modernize the monarchy across decades of enormous social change, royal marriages and births, and family scandals. For most Britons, she was the

only monarch they had ever known.

Her death in September was arguably the most high-profile death this year, prompting a collective outpouring of grief and respect for her steady leadership as well as some criticism of the monarchy's role in colonialism. She likely met more people than anyone in history, and her image — on stamps, coins and bank notes — was among the most

reproduced in the world.

Other world leaders who died in 2022 include former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, who died in August. His efforts to revitalize the Soviet Union led to the collapse of communism there and the end of the Cold War. He eventually resigned after an attempted coup, just as republics declared independence from the Soviet Union. The year also saw the as-

sassination of former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who was fatally shot during a campaign speech in July.

Other political figures who died this year include: former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, former Northern Ireland First Minister David Trimble, former Chinese President Jiang Zemin, former Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk, former Mexico President

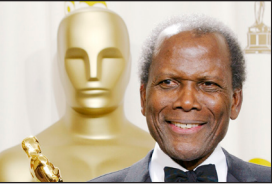
Luis Echeverria, former Peru President Francisco Morales Bermudez, Cuban diplomat Ricardo Alarcón, former U.S. Sen. Orrin G. Hatch, former Angolan President José Eduardo dos Santos, American Indian Movement co-founder Clyde Bellecourt and former U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter.

Among the entertainers who died this year was groundbreaking actor Sidney

Poitier, who played roles with such dignity that it helped change the way Black people are portrayed on screen. Poitier, who died in January, became the first Black actor to win the Academy Award for Best Actor for his role in the 1963 film "Lilies of the Field."

Here is a roll call of some influential figures who died in 2022 (cause of death cited for younger people, if available):

## JANUARY



**▲Sidney Poitier**, 94. He played roles of such dignity and intelligence that he transformed how Black people were portrayed on screen, becoming the first Black actor to win an Oscar for best lead performance and the first to be a top box-office draw. Jan. 6.

**Bob Saget**, 65. The actor-comedian known for his role as beloved single dad Danny Tanner on the sitcom "Full House" and as the wisecracking host of "America's Funniest Home Videos." Jan. 9.

**Robert Durst**, 78. The wealthy New York real estate heir and failed fugitive dogged for decades with suspicion in the disappearance and deaths of those around him before he was convicted last year of killing his best friend. Jan. 10.

**Ronnie Spector**, 78. The cat-eyed, bee-hived rock 'n' roll siren who sang such 1960s hits as "Be My Baby," "Baby I Love You" and "Walking in the Rain" as the leader of the girl group the Ronettes. Jan. 12.

**Ralph Emery**, 88. He became known as the dean of country music broadcasters over more than a half-century in both radio and television. Jan. 15.

**Charles McGee**, 102. A Tuskegee Airman who flew 409 fighter combat missions over three wars and later helped to bring attention to the Black pilots who battled racism at home to fight for freedom abroad. Jan. 16.

**Meat Loaf**, 74. The rock superstar loved by millions for his "Bat Out of Hell" album and for such theatrical, dark-hearted anthems as "Paradise By the Dashboard Light," "Two Out of Three Ain't Bad," and "I'd Do Anything for Love (But I Won't Do That)." Jan. 20.

**Louie Anderson**, 68. His four-decade career as a comedian and actor included his unlikely, Emmy-winning performance as mom to twin adult sons in the TV series "Baskets." Jan. 21.

**Thich Nhat Hanh**, 95. The revered Zen Buddhist monk who helped spread the practice of mindfulness in the West and socially engaged Buddhism in the East. Jan. 22.

**Howard Hesseman**, 81. He played the radio disc jockey Dr. Johnny Fever on the sitcom "WKRP in Cincinnati" and the actor-turned-history teacher Charlie Moore on "Head of the Class." Jan. 29.



**▲Cheslie Kryst**, 30. The winner of the Miss USA pageant and a correspondent for the entertainment news program "Extra." Jan. 30. Died by suicide.

## FEBRUARY

**Douglas Trumbull**, 79. A visual effects master who showed movie audiences indelible images of the future and of space in films like "2001: A Space Odyssey," "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" and "Blade Runner." Feb. 7.

**Betty Davis**, 77. A bold and pioneering funk singer, model and songwriter of the 1960s and '70s who was credited with inspiring then-husband Miles Davis' landmark fusion of jazz and more contemporary sounds. Feb. 9.

**Ivan Reitman**, 75. The

influential filmmaker and producer behind many of the most beloved comedies of the late 20th century, from "Animal House" to "Ghostbusters." Feb. 12.



**▲Sally Kellerman**, 84. The Oscar and Emmy nominated actor who played Margaret "Hot Lips" Houlihan in director Robert Altman's 1970 film "MASH." Feb. 24.

**John Landy**, 91. An Australian runner who dueled with Roger Bannister to be the first person to run a four-minute mile. Feb. 24.

## MARCH

**Emilio Delgado**, 81. The actor and singer who for 45 years was a warm and familiar presence in children's lives and a rare Latino face on American television as fix-it shop owner Luis on "Sesame Street." March 10.

**Mario Terán**, 80. The Bolivian soldier who pulled the trigger to execute famed revolutionary guerrilla Ernesto "Che" Guevara. March 10.

**William Hurt**, 71. His laconic charisma and self-assured subtlety as an actor made him one of the 1980s foremost leading men in movies such as "Broadcast News," "Body Heat" and "The Big Chill." March 13.

**Lauro F. Cavazos Jr.**, 95. A Texas ranch foreman's son who rose to become the first Latino to serve in a presidential Cabinet as U.S. Secretary of Education during the administrations of Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush. March 15.

**Don Young**, 88. The Alaska congressman was the longest-serving Republican in the history of the U.S. House. March 18.



**▲Madeleine Albright**, 84. A child refugee from Nazi- and then Soviet-dominated Eastern Europe who rose to become the first female secretary of state and a mentor to many current and former American statesmen and women. March 23.

**Taylor Hawkins**, 50. For 25 years, he was the drummer for Foo Fighters and best friend of frontman Dave Grohl. March 25.

## APRIL

**Estelle Harris**, 93. She hollered her way into TV history as George Costanza's short-fused mother on "Seinfeld" and voiced Mrs. Potato Head in the "Toy Story" franchise. April 2.

**Bobby Rydell**, 79. A pompadoured heart-throb of early rock 'n roll who was a star of radio, television and the movie musical "Bye Bye Birdie." April 5.

**Mimi Reinhard**, 107. A secretary in Oskar Schindler's office who typed up the list of Jews he saved from extermination by Nazi Germany. April 8.

**Gilbert Gottfried**, 67. The actor and legendary standup comic known for his raw, scorched voice and crude jokes. April 12.

**Liz Sheridan**, 93. She played doting mom to Jerry Seinfeld on his hit sitcom. April 15.

**Dede Robertson**, 94. The wife of religious broadcaster Pat Robertson and a founding board member of the Christian Broadcasting Network. April 19.

**Orrin G. Hatch**, 88. The

longest-serving Republican senator in history who was a fixture in Utah politics for more than four decades. April 23.



**▲Naomi Judd**, 76. Her family harmonies with daughter Wynonna turned them into the Grammy-winning country stars The Judds. April 30. Died by suicide.

## MAY

**Stanislav Shushkevich**, 87. He steered Belarus to independence during the breakup of the Soviet Union and served as its first leader. May 4.

**Fred Ward**, 79. A veteran actor who brought a gruff tenderness to tough-guy roles in such films as "The Right Stuff," "The Player" and "Tremors." May 8.

**Leonid Kravchuk**, 88. He led Ukraine to independence amid the collapse of the Soviet Union and served as its first president. May 10.

**Bob Lanier**, 73. The left-handed big man who muscled up beside the likes of Kareem Abdul-Jabbar as one of the NBA's top players of the 1970s. May 10.

**Robert C. McFarlane**, 84. The former White House national security adviser was a top aide to President Ronald Reagan who pleaded guilty to charges for his role in an illegal arms-for-hostages deal known as the Iran-Contra affair. May 12.

**Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan**, 73. The United Arab Emirates' long-ailing ruler and president who oversaw much of the country's blistering economic growth and whose name was immortalized on the world's tallest building, the Burj Khalifa. May 13.

**Rosmarie Trapp**, 93. Her Austrian family the von Trapps was made famous in the musical and beloved movie "The Sound of Music." May 13.

**Vangelis**, 79. The Greek electronic composer who wrote the unforgettable Academy Award-winning score for the film "Chariots of Fire" and music for dozens of other movies, documentaries and TV series. May 17.



**▲Ray Liotta**, 67. The actor best known for playing mobster Henry Hill in "Goodfellas" and baseball player Shoeless Joe Jackson in "Field of Dreams." May 26.

**Andy "Fletch" Fletcher**, 60. Keyboardist for British synth pop giants Depeche Mode for more than 40 years. May 26.

## JUNE

**Ann Turner Cook**, 95. Her cherubic baby face was known the world over as the original Gerber baby. June 3.

**Tony Siragusa**, 55. The charismatic defensive tackle who was part of one of the most celebrated defenses in NFL history with the Baltimore Ravens. June 22.

**Hershel W. "Woody" Williams**, 98. The last remaining Medal of Honor recipient from World War II, whose heroics under fire over several crucial hours at the Battle of Iwo Jima made him a legend in his native West Virginia. June 29.

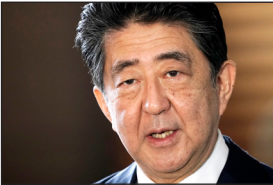
**Sonny Barger**, 83. The leather-clad fixture of 1960s counterculture and figurehead of the Hells

Angels motorcycle club who was at the notorious Rolling Stones concert at Altamont Speedway. June 29.

## JULY

**Bradford Freeman**, 97. The last survivor of the famed Army unit featured in the World War II oral history book and miniseries "Band of Brothers." July 3.

**James Caan**, 82. The curly-haired tough guy known to movie fans as the hotheaded Sonny Wortzik in "The Godfather" and to television audiences as both the dying football player in the classic weeper "Brian's Song" and the casino boss in "Las Vegas." July 6.



**▲Shinzo Abe**, 67. Japan's longest serving prime minister, he was also perhaps the most polarizing, complex politician in recent Japanese history. July 8. Fatally shot during a campaign speech.

**Tony Sirico**, 79. He played the impeccably groomed mobster Paulie Walnuts in "The Sopranos" and brought his tough-guy swagger to films including "Goodfellas." July 8.

**Larry Storch**, 99. The rubber-faced comic whose long career in theater, movies and television was capped by his "F Troop" role as zany Cpl. Agarn in the 1960s spoof of Western frontier TV shows. July 8.

**Ivana Trump**, 73. A skier-turned-businesswoman who formed half of a publicity power couple in the 1980s as the first wife of former President Donald Trump and mother of his oldest children. July 14. Injuries suffered in an accident.

**Paul Sorvino**, 83. An imposing actor who specialized in playing crooks and cops like Paulie Cicero in "Goodfellas" and the NYPD sergeant Phil Cerreta on "Law & Order." July 25.

**Tony Dow**, 77. As Wally Cleaver on the sitcom "Leave It to Beaver," he helped create the popular and lasting image of the American teenager of the 1950s and 60s. July 27.



**▲Nichelle Nichols**, 89. She broke barriers for Black women in Hollywood as communications officer Lt. Uhura on the original "Star Trek" television series. July 30.



**▲Bill Russell**, 88. The NBA great who anchored a Boston Celtics dynasty that won 11 championships in 13 years — the last two as the first Black head coach in any major U.S. sport — and marched for civil rights with Martin Luther King Jr. July 31.

**Ayman al-Zawahri**, 71. An Egyptian surgeon who became a mastermind of jihad against the West and who took over as al-Qaeda leader after Osama bin Laden's death in a U.S. raid. July 31. Killed by a U.S. drone strike in Afghanistan.

## AUGUST

**Vin Scully**, 94. A Hall of Fame broadcaster who called thousands

of games involving the Brooklyn and Los Angeles Dodgers during his 67 years in the booth. Aug. 2.



**▲Olivia Newton-John**, 73. The Grammy-winning superstar who reigned on pop, country, adult contemporary and dance charts with such hits as "Physical" and "You're the One That I Want" and won countless hearts as everyone's favorite Sandy in the blockbuster film version of "Grease." Aug. 8.

**Wolfgang Petersen**, 81. The German filmmaker whose World War II submarine epic "Das Boot" propelled him into a blockbuster Hollywood career that included the films "In the Line of Fire," "Air Force One" and "The Perfect Storm." Aug. 12.

**Anne Heche**, 53. The Emmy-winning film and television actor whose dramatic Hollywood rise in the 1990s and accomplished career contrasted with personal chapters of turmoil. Aug. 14. Injuries suffered in a car crash.

**Len Dawson**, 87. The Hall of Fame quarterback whose unmistakable swagger in helping the Kansas City Chiefs to their first Super Bowl title earned him the nickname "Lenny the Cool." Aug. 24.



**▲Mikhail Gorbachev**, 91. The last leader of the Soviet Union, he set out to revitalize it but ended up unleashing forces that led to the collapse of communism, the breakup of the state and the end of the Cold War. Aug. 30.

## SEPTEMBER

**Bernard Shaw**, 82. CNN's chief anchor for two decades and a pioneering Black broadcast journalist best remembered for calmly reporting the beginning of the Gulf War in 1991 as missiles flew around him in Baghdad. Sept. 7.



**▲Queen Elizabeth II**, 96. Britain's longest-reigning monarch and a rock of stability across much of a turbulent century. Sept. 8.

**Jean-Luc Godard**, 91. The iconic "enfant terrible" of the French New Wave who revolutionized popular cinema in 1960 with his first feature, "Breathless," and stood for years among the film world's most influential directors. Sept. 13.

**Ken Starr**, 76. A former federal appellate judge and a prominent attorney whose criminal investigation of Bill Clinton led to the president's impeachment and put Starr at the center of one of the country's most polarizing debates of the 1990s. Sept. 13.

**Henry Silva**, 95. A prolific character actor best known for playing villains and tough guys in "The Manchurian Candidate," "Ocean's Eleven" and other films. Sept. 14.

**Louise Fletcher**, 88. A late-blooming star whose riveting performance as the cruel and calculating Nurse Ratched in "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" set a new standard for screen villains and won her an Academy Award. Sept. 23.

**Coolio**, 59. The rapper was among hip-hop's

biggest names of the 1990s with hits including "Gangsta's Paradise" and "Fantastic Voyage." Sept. 28.

## OCTOBER

**Loretta Lynn**, 90. The Kentucky coal miner's daughter whose frank songs about life and love as a woman in Appalachia pulled her out of poverty and made her a pillar of country music. Oct. 4.



**▲Angela Lansbury**, 96. The scene-stealing British actor who kicked up her heels in the Broadway musicals "Mame" and "Gypsy" and solved endless murders as crime novelist Jessica Fletcher in the long-running TV series "Murder, She Wrote." Oct. 11.

**James A. McDivitt**, 93. He commanded the Apollo 9 mission testing the first complete set of equipment to go to the moon. Oct. 13.

**Robbie Coltrane**, 72. The baby-faced comedian and character actor whose hundreds of roles included a crime-solving psychologist on the TV series "Cracker" and the gentle half-giant Hagrid in the "Harry Potter" movies. Oct. 14.

**Zilli Schmidt**, 98. A survivor of the Auschwitz, Lety and Ravensbrueck concentration camps who became a vocal advocate for the recognition of the Nazi genocide of Sinti and Roma. Oct. 21.

**Dietrich Mateschitz**, 78. The Austrian billionaire was the co-founder of energy drink company Red Bull and founder and owner of the Red Bull Formula One racing team. Oct. 22.

**Ash Carter**, 68. A former defense secretary who opened combat jobs to women and ended a ban on transgender people serving in the military. Oct. 24.

**Leslie Jordan**, 67. The Emmy-winning actor whose wry Southern drawl and versatility made him a comedy and drama standout on TV series including "Will & Grace" and "American Horror Story." Oct. 24.

**Jerry Lee Lewis**, 87. The untamable rock 'n' roll pioneer whose outrageous talent, energy and ego collided on such definitive records as "Great Balls of Fire" and "Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On" and sustained a career otherwise upended by personal scandal. Oct. 28.

## NOVEMBER

**Aaron Carter**, 34. The singer-rapper who began performing as a child and had hit albums starting in his teen years. Nov. 5.

**Leslie Phillips**, 98. The British actor best known for his roles in the bawdy "Carry On" comedies and as the voice of the Sorting Hat in the "Harry Potter" movies. Nov. 7.



**▲Jeff Cook**, 73. The guitarist who co-founded the country group Alabama and steered them up the charts with such hits as "Song of the South" and "Dixieland Delight." Nov. 8.

**Kevin Conroy**, 66. The prolific voice actor whose gravely delivery on "Batman: The Animated Series" was for many Batman fans the definitive sound of the Caped Crusader. Nov. 10.

**Gallagher**, 76. The

long-haired, smash-'em-up comedian who left a trail of laughter, anger and shattered watermelons over a decadeslong career. Nov. 11.

**John Aniston**, 89. The Emmy-winning star of the daytime soap opera "Days of Our Lives" and father of actress Jennifer Aniston. Nov. 11.

**Robert Clary**, 96. A French-born survivor of Nazi concentration camps during World War II who played a feisty prisoner of war in the improbable 1960s sitcom "Hogan's Heroes." Nov. 16.

**Jason David Frank**, 49. He played the Green Power Ranger Tommy Oliver on the 1990s children's series "Mighty Morphin Power Rangers." Nov. 19.

**Irene Cara**, 63. The Oscar, Golden Globe and two-time Grammy winning singer-actor who starred and sang the title cut from the 1980 hit movie "Fame" and then belted out the era-defining hit "Flashdance ... What a Feeling" from 1983's "Flashdance." Nov. 25.

## DECEMBER

**Gaylord Perry**, 84. The Baseball Hall of Famer and two-time Cy Young Award winner was a master of the spitball who wrote a book about using pitch. Dec. 1.

**Bob McGrath**, 90. An actor, musician and children's author widely known for his portrayal of one of the first regular characters on the children's show "Sesame Street." Dec. 4.

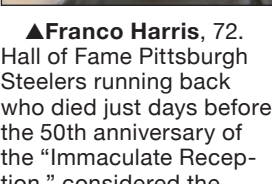
**▲Kirstie Alley**, 71. A two-time Emmy winner whose roles on the TV megahit "Cheers" and in the "Look Who's Talking" films made her one of the biggest stars in American comedy in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Dec. 5.

**Abigail Kinoiki Kekaulike Kawānanakoa**, 96. She was the so-called last Hawaiian princess whose lineage included the royal family that once ruled the islands and an Irish businessman who became one of Hawaii's largest landowners. Dec. 11.

**Mike Leach**, 61. The gruff, pioneering and unfiltered college football coach who helped revolutionize the game with the Air Raid offense. Dec. 12.

**Stephen "tWitch" Boss**, 40. The longtime and beloved dancing DJ on "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" and a former contestant on "So You Think You Can Dance." Dec. 13. Died by suicide.

**Shirley Ekhard**, 67. The singer-songwriter who supplied songs for Cher, Emmylou Harris, Anne Murray, Chet Atkins and found lasting fame penning Bonnie Raitt's Grammy-winning 1991 hit "Something to Talk About." Dec. 15.



**▲Franco Harris**, 72. Hall of Fame Pittsburgh Steelers running back who died just days before the 50th anniversary of the "Immaculate Reception," considered the most iconic play in NFL history. Dec. 21.



**▲Pele**, 82. Brazilian king of soccer who won a record three World Cups and became one of the most commanding sports figures of the last century. Dec. 29.