

# TED KENNEDY: AN AMERICAN ICON

**By Madison Tang**  
Reporter

On Tuesday, August 25, 2009, Senator Ted Kennedy died of brain cancer at his home in Hyannis Port. He was 77 years old, and the youngest brother of President John F. Kennedy and Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Throughout the course of his career, he was elected into the U.S. Senate nine times, serving a total of 46 years as Massachusetts' Democratic Senator. The third longest serving senator in U.S. history as well as the second most senior member, Kennedy was known for his bipartisan efforts and inspiring public speeches. From 1968 and on, Ted Kennedy was the most prominent



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living member of his family. A long time advocate of health care reform, Democrats adopted the new rallying cry, "Let's win one for Teddy" following his death this past summer. Despite this, Kennedy was a tremendously competent legislator, and even Republicans referred to him as the "Lion of the Senate." The Senator was a pinnacle of justice and action, laying claim to almost every major piece of social legislation since 1962. He strove to give the powerless a voice and a sense of equality, and lent his aid to the various causes of health care reform, education, gay rights, unions, civil rights, the disabled, women, and immigrants. He once said that, "the Constitution does not just protect those whose views we share; it also

protects those with whose views we disagree." His first major bill was the Immigration Act of 1965, which served as a vital turning point in immigration policy by effectively eliminating discriminatory quotas favoring Europeans, and he has continued to support significant legislation since then. Kennedy's family, including his wife Victoria, his sister Jean Kennedy Smith, and his three children and two stepchildren, are admirably coping with their loss, and have recently spoken publicly, thanking everyone who supported him in his "tireless march for progress toward justice." They, along with the rest of the world, surely agree that Ted Kennedy was a noble man, who reached across party lines in order to achieve necessary public purposes, and whose dedication in politics will not be forgotten anytime soon. "We have learned that it is important to take issues seriously, but never to take ourselves too seriously." - Ted Kennedy

## LES PAUL

**By Madison Tang**  
Reporter

The sound, image, and culture of rock and roll would not have been possible without the electric guitar. One of the first solid-body electric guitars to have been invented was Les Paul's Gibson in the 1930s. Since then, his guitars have remained popular, with musicians like Eric Clapton playing them in addition to being an innovator, Les Paul was also a recording musician, and songwriter. He is credited with the modern recording essentials of overdubbing, delay, phasing, and multitrack recording. His music was groundbreaking in the genres of jazz, country, and blues, and has inspired numerous techniques still used today. Les Paul's death on August 12, 2009 marked the passing away of a truly irreplaceable pioneer of music in its entirety. Les Paul left behind.



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## PATRICK SWAYZE

**By Nathaly Romanes**  
Reporter

Born August 18th 1952 in Houston, Texas, Patrick Swayze was known as a provocative dancer who won over millions of fans. His heart was full of passion for his art and along the way captivated the hearts of others with his touching performance in Ghost and made women melt for his masculine moves in Dirty Dancers. Thousands of his fans were devastated to hear about his loss to cancer on September 14th 2009. He was a fighter, for he fought with pancreatic cancer for twenty months before he succumbed to the dreadful disease. He stated this when he appeared in his last television interview in December 2008, "One thing I'm not gonna do is chase staying alive," Swayze said. "You spend so much time chasing staying alive, you won't live." He was a strong and tender individual and he shall be remembered as one of our leg-



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## DJ AM

**By Palmira Muniz**  
Reporter

Adam Michael Goldstein, known as DJ AM was born on March 30, 1973. He was an American club DJ and musician who was a member of the rock band Crazy Town. Some of the artists DJ AM worked with are Papa Roach, Madonna, and Will Smith, among others and appeared on several television series, and starred in his own, Gone Too Far, a drug intervention reality series that was set to premiere on MTV early this year. Unfortunately, the evening of August 28th 2009, Goldstein was found dead at his New York City apartment at around 5:20 p.m. on Friday, August 28, 2009, after friends, unable to reach Goldstein for a few days, became concerned and called police. Sources have speculated that the cause of death may have been a result of a drug overdose. DJ AM brought new and innovative music to the world, and will be greatly missed.

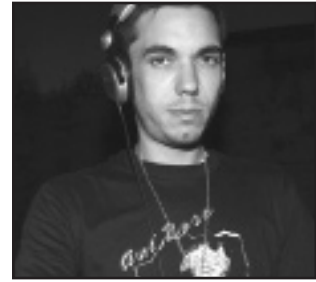


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## MICHAEL JACKSON

**By Dominique Riutort & Shekhina Rivera**  
Editor & Reporter

On June 25, 2009, at approximately 2:26 pm, Michael Jackson, the legendary King of Pop and perhaps the greatest performer of all time, was pronounced dead. This news sent shockwaves around the world. Websites such as Google experienced crashes, AOL's AIM system was down for over 40 minutes, and Twitter reportedly received hundreds of thousands of Tweets in a span of minutes. Fans mourned all around the globe, in a variety of ways. Some visited Jackson's Hollywood star, others surrounded the UCLA Medical Center. Perhaps the biggest shock was the fact that Michael Jackson's long awaited "This Is It" Tour was only a few, short weeks away, beginning in July. In February, when the tickets went on sale, they were sold out in a matter of hours, thereby being proof that Michael Jack-

son was still extremely popular after all these years. Michael Jackson proved to be the most talented and famous one out of his siblings. In 1979, he released his first, solo album "Off The Wall." The first hit, "Don't Stop 'Til You Get Enough," proved to be a great success for him. Album sales went through the roof, sky-rocketing Michael Jackson's fame to an international scale. Four years later, in 1983, the world-renowned album "Thriller" was released. In just over a year of its release, "Thriller" became—and continues to be—the best selling album of all time. With over 51 million copies sold worldwide, Michael Jackson proves to be one of, if not, the most popular artists in history. It is no shock then, that Michael Jackson's death made such an impact on a global scale. Music and dancing styles was forever changed thanks to this incredible performer. Madonna summarizes it perfectly: "Long Live the King."

## FARRAH FAWCETT

Farrah Fawcett was born on February 2, 1947 and died in June 25, 2009. She is most remembered for her unique hairstyle that made her an international sex symbol in the 1970's and 80's. Farrah was diagnosed with cancer in 2006 and began chemotherapy. On her 60th birthday she was diagnosed cancer free but four months later she was told she had another polyp. Fawcett died in Saint John's Health Center in Santa Monica.



A Fallen Angel. Photo From: www.wordpress.com