

'Black Panther,' '42' Star Chadwick Boseman Dead at Age 43

Chadwick Boseman, who portrayed not only the legendary Black Panther but also barrier-breaking baseball star Jackie Robinson (42) and music icon James Brown (*Gen on Up*), died Friday, Aug. 28, of colon cancer at age 43. He died at his home in the Los Angeles area surrounded by his wife and family, his publicist Nicki Fioravante told The Associated Press. He is survived by his wife and one parent and had no children, Fioravante said.

The star had not spoken publicly about his diagnosis, but a statement his family made to The Associated Press said he was "privately undergoing countless surgeries and chemotherapy" in his fight with the disease, diagnosed in 2016 at stage 3.

"A true fighter, Chadwick persevered through it all, and brought you many of the films you have come to love so much," his family said in the statement. "From Marshall to Da 5 Bloods, August Wilson's Ma Rainey's Black Bottom and several more—all were filmed during and between countless surgeries and chemotherapy. It was the honor of his career to bring King T'Challa to life in Black Panther. The family thanks you for your love and prayers."

— Chadwick Boseman (@chadwickboseman) August 29, 2020

Boseman's portrayal of the mythical Wakanda culture helped propel *Black Panther*, the only Marvel film to receive a best picture Oscar nomination, to more than \$1.3 million in global box office receipts, according to the Associated Press. Fellow Marvel star Chris Pratt said in an Instagram post, "My prayers

go out to Chadwick's family and loved ones. The world will miss his tremendous talent. God rest his soul."