

Diane Keaton Dead at 79: What She Said About the Afterlife

Diane Keaton, the Oscar-winning actress whose distinctive voice, style and vulnerability made her one of Hollywood's most enduring icons, has passed away at 79. Her family confirmed that she died peacefully in California on Saturday, asking for privacy as they grieve.

Keaton's rise to fame began on Broadway in the 1960s, where she performed in "Hair" before transitioning to film. Her collaboration with Woody Allen produced several defining works, including "Play It Again, Sam," "Sleeper," and "Manhattan." However, it was her performance in "Annie Hall" that became a cultural touchstone, earning her an Academy Award for Best Actress.

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Keaton's diverse filmography included celebrated roles in "The Godfather" trilogy, "Reds," "Baby Boom," "Father of the Bride," "The First Wives Club," and "Something's Gotta Give." Her ability to move effortlessly between comedy and drama made her a beloved figure across generations.

In a conversation with the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, Keaton previously shared that religion "wasn't a big part" of her life. "My father was an Irish Catholic and my mother was a Methodist when I was a little girl... when the 60s arrived they had dropped religion and moved on. It was a different time and they stopped going to church. I think they were right," Keaton previously said.

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Keaton continued, stating, "I don't believe in hell. I can't really accept hell as a concept at all, that kind of punishment is absurd. I made a movie about heaven many years ago and that really cleared it up for me. It's very simple, why on earth would people have to burn for all eternity? Why would there be such a place as hell, for any of us? First of all I can't even visualize it, the concept is so abstract, then nobody deserves it, ever. So, I just don't believe that."

Keaton also expressed her disapproval for some of the religious views held in the Catholic Church. "The thing about the Catholic Church for me is that it gets mired in all of these details and it is hard to understand anything because it is so believe that people have a responsibility to learn to think for themselves, and that rules are frequently confusing."

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While Diane Keaton achieved remarkable success in Hollywood, leaving behind a legacy of unforgettable performances, she missed out on the deep comfort, guidance and eternal joy that comes from a personal relationship with God. Her life reminds us that earthly accomplishments, while impressive, cannot replace the peace and hope found in knowing Him – a treasure that transcends fame, wealth and recognition.

Prepared by Charisma Media Staff.