

Ozzy Osbourne Dead at 76: What the Rock Legend Said About God and Christianity

Ozzy Osbourne, the pioneering voice of heavy metal and co-founder of the band Black Sabbath, died Tuesday, July 22, at the age of 76, according to a statement from his family.

"It is with more sadness than mere words can convey that we have to report that our beloved Ozzy Osbourne has passed away this morning. He was with his family and surrounded by love. We ask everyone to respect our family privacy at this time," the family said in the statement, signed by Sharon, Jack, Kelly, Aimee and Louis.

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Born John Michael Osbourne in Birmingham, England, the singer rose from a working-class background to international fame with Black Sabbath, a band widely credited with defining the sound and style of heavy metal. His unique voice and theatrical performances helped propel the group to global stardom with hits like Paranoid, Iron Man and War Pigs.



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After leaving Black Sabbath in 1979, Osbourne launched a successful solo career, producing iconic tracks such as Crazy Train and Mr. Crowley. He also gained a new generation of fans through the reality TV show The Osbournes, which aired on MTV in the early 2000s.

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Osbourne had been battling multiple health issues in recent years, including Parkinson's disease and spinal injuries that forced him to cancel tour dates.

Complex Relationship With Faith

Though often criticized for dark themes in his lyrics and stage performances, including accusations of promoting occultism, Osbourne repeatedly distanced himself from such claims and professed belief in God.

"I'm a Christian. I was christened as a Christian. I used to go to Sunday school," he said in a 2014 interview with The Guardian. He also told The New York Times in 1992 that he was "a practicing member of the Church of England" and prayed before every concert.

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Despite these comments, Osbourne's lyrics and image often clashed with traditional Christian values. He acknowledged this tension, once stating, "I am not a devil-worshipper. I have never been involved in black magic," in an attempt to correct the public narrative surrounding his persona.

While Osbourne's expressions of faith were sincere to him, they were viewed by many as inconsistent with his music and onstage theatrics. His beliefs remained personal and complicated, mirroring a career that was equally chaotic and legendary.

Prepared by Charisma Media Staff.