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RYAN O'NEAL ACTOR BIO

Born Patrick Ryan O'Neal on April 20, 1941 in Los Angeles, California to parent's writer Charles "Blackie" O'Neal and actress Patricia O'Callaghan. Determined to make his own way, O'Neal trained to become a professional boxer, competing in two Golden Gloves championships in 1956 and 1957. He had an impressive amateur fighting record – 18 wins to 4 losses, with 13 knockouts. In the late 1950s, O'Neal and his family moved to Germany for his father's job writing broadcasts for Radio Free Europe. O'Neal continued his schooling at the Munich American High School until he landed his first job in the entertainment industry as a stuntman on the American television series *Tales of the Vikings*.

Television & Film

In the early 1960s, O'Neal married actress Joanna Moore and the couple had two children: Tatum and Griffin. The two split a few years later and O'Neal then married actress Leigh Taylor-Young, whom he met on the set of *Peyton Place*, his first major television role. They had one child, Patrick—who is a sports broadcaster for Fox Sports. O'Neal's big break came when he was chosen from more than 300 hopefuls for the role of Oliver Barrett opposite Ali MacGraw in Arthur Hiller's adaptation of Erich Segal's best-seller *Love Story* in 1970. The film was a huge success and landed O'Neal both Oscar and Golden Globe nominations for Best Actor.

After *Love Story*, O'Neal turned to comedy and starred opposite Barbara Streisand in smash hit *What's Up Doc* (1971). He then starred with Warren

Oates and Jacqueline Bisset in *The Thief Who Came To Dinner* (1973). O'Neal next played a drifter working con games with his daughter (played by real life daughter, Tatum) in the critically acclaimed hit *Paper Moon* (1973) for which he was nominated for a Golden Globe as Best Actor, and which Tatum won an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress. O'Neal then went on to star in Stanley Kubrick's 1975 historical drama *Barry Lyndon*; *Oliver Story*, a sequel to *Love Story* in 1978; and the noir hit *The Driver*, also in 1978. In 1979, O'Neal scored another box office win with *The Main Event*, starring opposite Barbara Streisand. Then, in 1984, O'Neal co-starred with Drew Barrymore, Shelley Long and Sharon Stone in *Irreconcilable Differences*.

In 1979, O'Neal met and fell in love with actress Farrah Fawcett. Together they had one child, a son Redmond. O'Neal and Fawcett co-starred in the made-for-TV miniseries *Small Sacrifices* (1989), based on the true story of Diane Downs. O'Neal returned to episodic television, again co-starring with real-life love, Farrah Fawcett in 1991 with the sitcom *Good Sports*.

O'Neal's other roles included starring alongside Robert Downey in *Chances Are* (1989), *Faithful* co-starring Cher (1996), and the comedic *Malibu's Most Wanted* (2003). O'Neal has continued working in television with a recurring role on hit crime drama *Bones* which recently came to a close after a 12 season run.

Most recently - 45 years after their onscreen *Love Story* - O'Neal reunited with Ali McGraw, this time onstage for the National Tour of *Love Letters*, which played across America during 2015-2016. Written by A.R Gurney and directed by Tony-Winner Gregory Mosher, the play seemed tailor-made for the pair as both O'Neal and MacGraw received rave reviews.

LOVE LETTERS REVIEWS

45 years after their onscreen *Love Story*, Ryan O'Neal and Ali McGraw reunited again onstage for the National Tour of *Love Letters*, which played across America during 2015-2016. Written by A.R Gurney and directed by Tony-Winner Gregory Mosher, the play seemed tailor-made for the pair as both O'Neal and MacGraw received rave reviews.

“[they] imbue their performances not only with palpable spark and gripping emotional depth but also with an aura of winsome nostalgia for a time when they were the industry’s most romantically tragic — and, therefore, most perfect — onscreen couple.” - Variety

“No pairing comes as loaded as that of **Ali MacGraw and **Ryan O’Neal**...Their very first performance Tuesday night at The Broward Center for the Performing Arts in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., elicited gasps, tears, a standing ovation and shouts of ‘bravo’**
- Hollywood Reporter

“O’Neal delivers his final monologue, particularly, with a powerful depth of feeling.”
-Los Angeles Times

“I left profoundly moved by the plays' simplicity and healthy heartbeat.”
- Broadway World

AWARDS/NOMS

Academy Awards, USA 1971

Nominee

Oscar

Best Actor in a Leading Role

[Love Story](#) (1970)

Golden Globes, USA 1974

Nominee

Golden Globe

Best Actor in a Motion Picture - Comedy or Musical

[Paper Moon](#) (1973)

Golden Globes, USA 1974

Nominee

Golden Globe

Best Actor in a Motion Picture - Drama

[Love Story](#) (1970)

Golden Globes, USA 1974

Nominee

Golden Globe

Best Actor in a Motion Picture - Musical or Comedy

[Paper Moon](#) (1974)

Bravo Otto 1972

Winner

Bravo Otto Germany

Best Actor (Schauspieler)

Nominee

Bravo Otto Germany

Best Actor (Schauspieler)

David di Donatello Awards 1971

Winner

David

Best Foreign Actor (Migliore Attore Straniero)

[Love Story](#) (1970)

Faro Island Film Festival 1972

Nominee

Audience Award

Best Actor

[What's Up, Doc?](#) (1972)

Golden Apple Awards 1981

Winner

Sour Apple

Laurel Awards 1971

Nominee

Golden Laurel

Best Dramatic Performance, Male

[Love Story](#) (1970)

Still, to this day, *Love Story* remains a popular film, at least in memory. As of June 2002, it was ranked No. 9 on the American Film Institute's 100 greatest love stories in American cinema. *Love Story* also remains one of the most successful films in Hollywood history, among the top 40 in adjusted box office gross.

CHARITY WORK

Ryan is on Advisory Board of FF Foundation



**Farrah Fawcett
Foundation**

MISSION

WE HONOR FARRAH'S OWN FIGHT WITH CANCER BY PASSIONATELY GIVING TO:

Cutting edge research in memory of Farrah's life and fight to the end.
Patient assistance funds for those faced with mounting expenses during treatment.

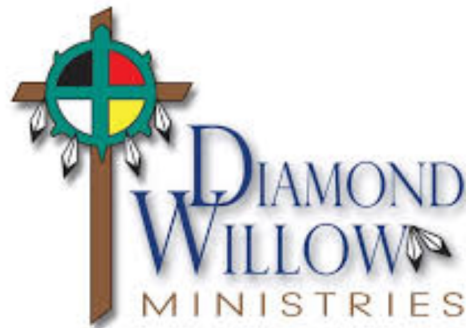
Prevention programs to help spread the word so the cancer struggle will cease.

After being diagnosed with cancer in 2006, Farrah Fawcett started the Farrah Fawcett Foundation in 2007. She was committed to finding a cure for her cancer and to personally oversee her foundation.

Unfortunately, events took a different turn and after seeking various treatments including alternative choices, she passed away on June 25, 2009. Farrah wanted to help further cutting edge research and was particularly interested in alternative practices. She often wondered why there was not more research done with this type of cancer and hoped to be able to contribute to this less known area of the disease.

Farrah cared deeply about those less fortunate than she; those struggling with financial hardships as a result of their diagnosis.

CHARITY WORK



<https://www.d-w-m.org> - Ryan is a huge supporter and donation contributor of Diamond Willow Industries which formed in 2002 for the purpose of building and strengthening the people of our community, the Crow Creek Sioux Reservation. This is being accomplished by bringing people into a relationship with Creator God through Jesus Christ. Diamond Willow Ministries (DWM) meets people's spiritual and emotional needs through personal mentoring relationships and the teaching of Biblical truths and principles. Meeting the many critical physical needs we see here is a primary outlet for showing Christian love and compassion.

DWM is a 501(c)(3) non-profit agency comprised of community members brought together by a common vision. We are comprised of Dakota, Lakota, and non-Indians working and living here on the Crow Creek Reservation. We however are only one part of the DWM team. The great things happening here are the result of God working through all those who see the need, share the vision, and are contributing financially and through prayer.

CHARITY WORK

City of Hope presented Ryan with the Helping Hands Award in grateful appreciation of his outstanding support. April 5th 2003

The Ryan O'Neal Foundation has been set up but not currently active yet.