

Luther Vandross (1951 - 2005)

(wikipedia.org, July 1, 2005) Luther Vandross, African American R&B singer, died July 1 at the age of 54 from complications due to a stroke.

Born in NY City, he started his singing career in the 1970s as a back-up vocalist for artists such as David Bowie (who discovered him and put him on his Young Americans album), Roberta Flack, Carly Simon, Donna Summer, Bette Midler, Chic, and Barbra Streisand.

More: www.wikipedia.org

See also:

- "Luther Vandross: Soulful Balladeer Dead at 54" (by Dearth Shuler, The Black World Today, July 2, 2005) - "Four-time-Grammy award winner Luther Vandross, 54, died at 1:47 p.m., Friday, July 1, 2005, just as many were preparing for the long July 4th weekend. The singer died at John F. Kennedy Medical Center in Edison, New Jersey. At this time the exact cause of death is unknown, although, sources claim that Luther suffered complete kidney failure, which led to a massive heart attack. It is widely known that Vandross had been having health problems for quite some time and for years battled hypertension, diabetes and fluctuating weight issues, and apparently had not fully recovered from a stroke two years ago...."

- "Luther Vandross, dead at 54" (Afro-Americ@ News, July 1, 2005) -- "In what was described as 'a peaceful passing under the watchful eye of friends, family and the medical support team' Luther Vandross died on the afternoon of July 1...."

- "Luther s Send Off" (by Nayaba Arinde, The Black World Today, July 10, 2005) - "...Stars and thousands come out for Luther Vandross farewell, and Luther would have loved it. His homegoing was worthy of this quintessential musician s musician, - this Sound of New York. ...Luther was buried in George Washington Memorial Park in New Jersey. All roads led to the Abyssinian Baptist Church Monday night for another Harlem send off."