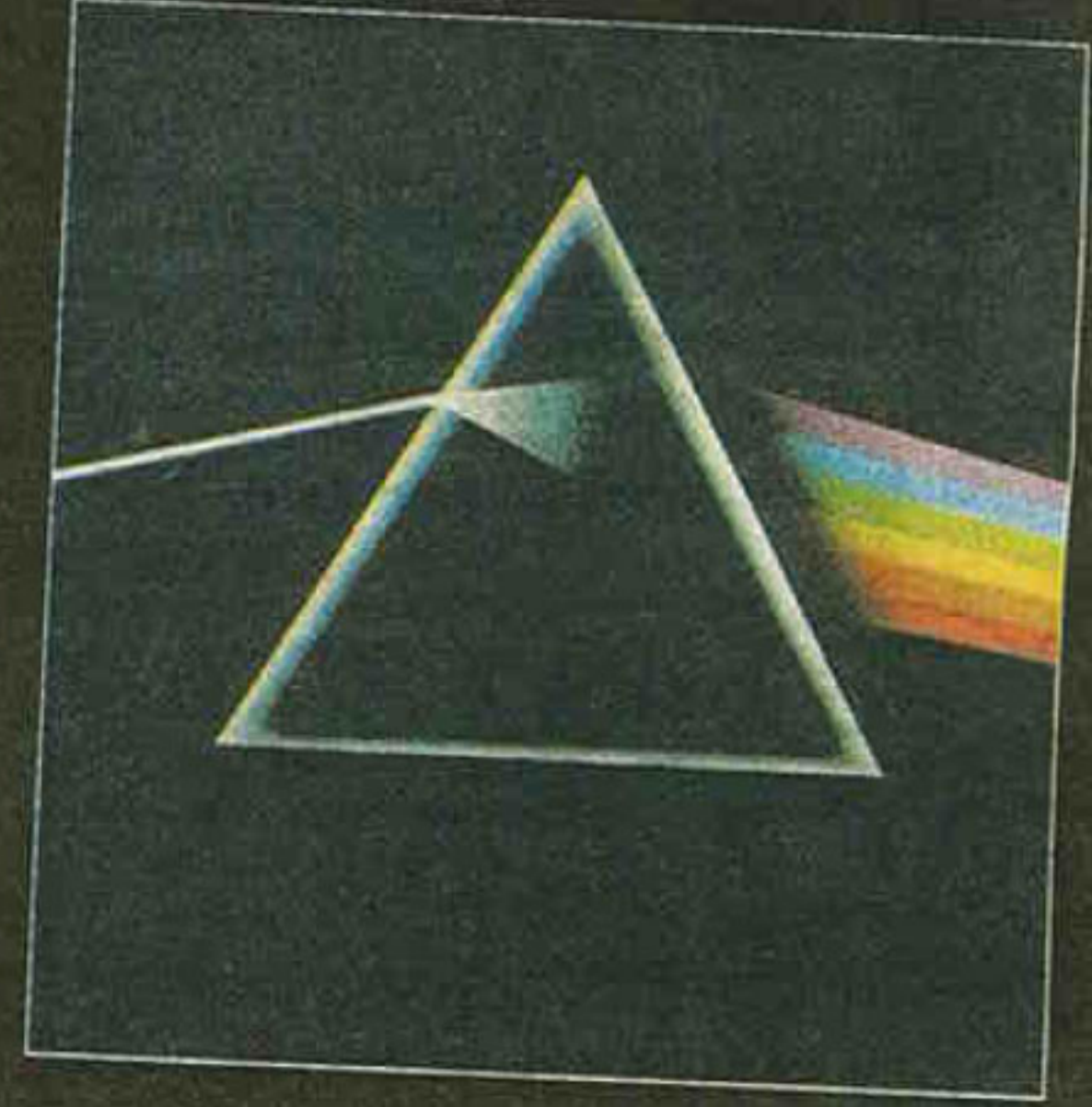


# ROCK STAR DIES OF CANCER AT 65



In the Pink . . . from left, Gilmour, Waters, Mason and Wright at Live 8 in 2005. Moon album, right



# Pink Floyd Rick's gone to Great Gig in the Sky

By JAMES CLENCH

**PINK Floyd founder member Rick Wright died yesterday after a short battle with cancer. He was 65.**

The keyboard player wrote tracks *The Great Gig in the Sky* and *Us And Them* for the 'prog-rock legends' classic album *Dark Side of the Moon*.

His spokesman said: "The family of Richard Wright announce with great sadness that Richard died after a short struggle with cancer.

"The family have asked their privacy is respected at this difficult time." Rick, who taught himself to play, met Pink Floyd bassist Roger Waters, now 65, and drummer Nick Mason, 64, at an architects' college in London in the Sixties.



Prog legend . . . Rick in Seventies

The group - with guitarist and vocalist Syd Barrett - released debut *The Piper At The Gates Of Dawn* in 1967. Guitarist David Gilmour joined the band in 1968.

### Iconic

Yesterday Gilmour, 62, said: "Rick was such a lovely, gentle, genuine man and will be missed terribly by so many who loved him. That's a lot of people."

London-born Rick appeared on all but one of the band's 14 studio releases, including iconic albums *Dark Side Of The Moon* in 1973 and *The Wall* in 1979.

He performed on every Floyd tour, playing with all the members apart from Barrett at charity spectacular Live 8 in London's Hyde Park in 2005. Last year he performed at a tribute concert to Barrett, who died in 2006 aged 60.

Rick - who released two solo albums - also performed with Gilmour's touring band in 2006.

He was married three times - most recently to Millie in 1996 - and leaves three children.

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Psychedelic . . . starting out in 1967