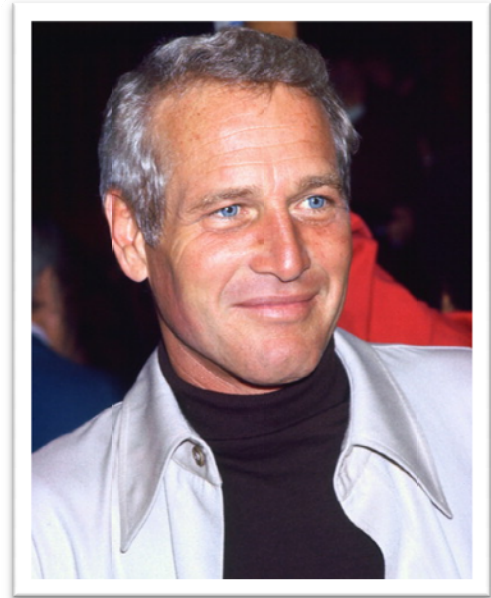


**Paul Newman – Silver Celebrity**  
by Skye MacBroom

As we enter the 81st Oscar award season, many Hollywooders are wondering just what 2009 will bring. (In fact, many are unsure of the shaky Oscar climate as noted in the Los Angeles Times.) We wonder – who will be highlighted as the most promising actor, supporting actor, best movie? Who will be featured in the scrolling montage of Hollywood greats who have passed away during this past year?



We lost a very special FiftyAndFurthermore this year, a true Silver Celebrity. Fans from Main Street USA to glittering Tinseltown are still mourning the loss of one of our most beloved actors this year, Paul Newman.

Newman and his wife Joanne Woodward resided in Westport, Connecticut, a coastal town that is home to artists, actors, and starlets who are part time Angelinos, Manhattanites, and suburban country wanna-be-bumpkins. As a fellow CT resident, I can tell you this much, we LOVE Paul Newman in this state!



The first time I met him, I was in a coffee shop off of Main Street in line, bleary eyed, waiting for my first java fix of the day. Coffee An' Donut Shop is a cramped old fashioned institution in town that is known to be one of Newman's favorite haunts and I visited the shop often. I always knew it'd just be a matter of time until I saw Newman there, he was a regular. I figured that Newman would be bigger than life, a looming, impressive, famous, aloof figure. Boy was I

wrong. In walked a friendly ol' guy with a soft smile, warm eyes and a tuft of white hair. He ordered, "The regular," and happily chatted away with people in line - the owner, kids with dogs, and sleepy (and starry) eyed girls. Boy did he make my day! I enjoyed running into Newman in the crowded downtown shops or on the deserted beach board walk early in the morning. He always offered everyone an easy smile and a friendly greeting - a true gentleman in an old fashioned Hollywood/cowboy kinda way.

His resume is an impressive and lengthy one. Newman was an Academy Award, Cannes Film Festival, Emmy, Golden Globe winning actor who starred in films that have become a part of our American culture. His famous films include *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *The Hustler*, *The Color of Money*, *Cool Hand Luke* and *Nobody's Fool*. Of course, we can't forget the two films co-starring Robert Redford *The Sting* and *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*.

Newman had a true zest for life and his need for speed was exemplified in his hobby, race car driving. In 2006 he was the voice of Doc Hudson in Disney/Pixar's animated movie, *Cars*.

Not only was Newman a stunning actor, but he was also known for his big heart. He founded the wildly successful food company, Newman's Own, which produces salad dressings, salsas, cat food, popcorn, coffee - you name it. Newman donated all of the post-tax profits and royalties to charity - over \$250 million to date. One organization that was funded by Newman's Own was The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp, a residential summer camp for seriously ill children that Newman cofounded in 1988. (The name of the organization is a reference to *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*.)

### **A Few of Newman's Own Quotes:**

"You can't be as old as I am without waking up with a surprised look on your face every morning: 'Holy Christ, whaddya know - I'm still around!' It's absolutely amazing that I survived all the booze and smoking and the cars and the career."

"I picture my epitaph: 'Here lies Paul Newman, who died a failure because his eyes turned brown.'"