Beat: Arts

Famous movie critic Roger Ebert dies of cancer at age 70

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USPA News - World-known movie critic, Roger Ebert, on Thursday died after struggling with cancer. He was 70. Ebert, born in Urbana, Illinois in 1942, was probably best known for his film review column on the Chicago Sun-Times.

He won the Pulitzer Prize for Criticism in 1975, becoming the first film critic to ever receive such award. He was also awarded a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Roger Ebert`s wife, Chaz, issued a statement which was published by the Chicago Sun-Times, confirming the passing of the famous critic, who continued his 46-year career until the day he died. "I am devastated by the loss of my love, Roger - my husband, my friend, my confidante and oh-so-brilliant partner of over 20 years," Chaz stated. "He fought a courageous fight. I`ve lost the love of my life and the world has lost a visionary and a creative and generous spirit who touched so many people all over the world." United States President Barack Obama on Thursday expressed sadness regarding Ebert`s passing. "Michelle and I are saddened to hear about the passing of Roger Ebert. For a generation of Americans - and especially Chicagoans - Roger was the movies," said Obama. "When he didn`t like a film, he was honest; when he did, he was effusive - capturing the unique power of the movies to take us somewhere magical." "Even amidst his own battles with cancer, Roger was as productive as he was resilient - continuing to share his passion and perspective with the world. The movies won`t be the same without Roger, and our thoughts and prayers are with Chaz and the rest of the Ebert family."

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