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Ray Manzarek, Catholic school grad and founder of The Doors, dies

by Tom Gallagher

NCR Today

Late last month, Ray Manzarek, founding keyboardist for the iconic rock group The Doors, died of cancer at age 74.

It turns out that Manzarek was a graduate of an Augustinian-run Catholic high school in Chicago and later attended DePaul University.

Here's a blog on Manzarek from the *Chicago Sun-Times*:

Before starting The Doors, Manzarek grew up on the South Side, attending Everett Elementary School and St. Rita High School before enrolling at DePaul, where he graduated with an economics degree.

After that, he headed west to UCLA where he met poet Jim Morrison in 1965 and formed the Doors. Until Morrison's death in 1971 the moody, often psychedelic band was enshrined in the pantheon of 1960s rock stardom thanks to songs such as "L.A. Woman," "Break On Through to the Other Side," "The End," "Hello, I Love You," and "Light My Fire." In 2002, Manzarek began touring again with Doors guitarist and long-time collaborator Robby Krieger.

Here's a YouTube video for "Light My Fire," performed by The Doors in Europe in 1968, that has been viewed more than 11 million times:

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