

Harry Belafonte dies at 96



Reporter: His made Harry Belafonte But growing up in and , his mother taught him to it to do more than entertain.

Harry Belafonte: She would say to me, never go to at night knowing that you have spent a in which you have done nothing to try to change

Reporter: And Belafonte started early, joining the navy at , to serve in the pacific, during After the war, he sang in before receiving a Tony award for his Broadway debut. Next came in Hollywood, including an Academy Award for Carmen Jones. His career was one of firsts. The first African-American to win an Emmy. His album "Calypso" became the first to sell copies. Through it all Belafonte made his voice heard. A of Martin Luther King, Belafonte marshalled celebrities to the cause of

Belafonte: "No one can deny the fact that played a huge role in how minds and hearts were opened and touched".

Reporter : At King's , he shed tears besides King's widow.

Belafonte: "I roam the streets, leaderless".

Reporter: Belafonte spent on the front lines, apartheid, calling for a ban on weapons. To fight in Africa, Harry Belafonte once again gathered to raise and more than \$60 million. In , Bill Clinton awarded Belafonte the National Medal of Arts. Belafonte spent more than as a UNICEF goodwill Ambassador and dedicated his later years to inspiring of artist activists.

Belafonte: You still have , you still have As long as these things exist, there's always gonna be something to do but that cannot distract the fact that that we are on the

Reporter: A way paved in part by a man and his music.
Rehema Ellis, NBC news news