



Born on January 17, 1942, in Louisville, Kentucky, Cassius Marcellus Clay Jr., later known as Muhammad Ali, transcended the boxing ring to become a global symbol.

Ali's journey began in the gym, where he discovered his passion for boxing after a brief encounter with a police man. He went on to win a gold medal at the 1960 Rome Olympics catapulted him into the professional boxing scene.

In 1964, Ali shocked the world by defeating Sonny Liston to become the World Heavyweight Champion.

His declaration, "I am the greatest," wasn't just bravado; it was a self-fulfilling prophecy. Ali's charisma and unapologetic self-confidence captivated fans globally.

Beyond the ring, Ali was a social and political force. His refusal to be drafted into the Vietnam War on moral grounds made headlines and led to a suspension from boxing.

Undeterred, Ali returned to the sport in 1970, his principles intact. In the famous "Rumble in the Jungle" in 1974, he reclaimed the heavyweight title by defeating George Foreman in a display of tactical brilliance

In 1999, Muhammad Ali was voted BBC Sport's Personality of the Century.

Ali's life wasn't without challenges. His battle with Parkinson's disease later in life became a poignant chapter, but even in the face of adversity, he remained a symbol of strength and grace.

Muhammad Ali's impact extends far beyond boxing. He was a fighter for justice, civil rights, and humanitarian causes. His legacy is not just the 56 victories in the ring but also the countless lives he inspired.

His boxing boots are proudly displayed on the wall at Carmarthen Athletic Rugby Club.