(Richard William) 'Rick' Wright, keyboardist, guitarist, singer (born Pinner, Middlesex, July 1943), died of cancer, 15 September, aged 65. As a child he learnt trumpet, trombone, piano and guitar. He visited London jazz clubs and studied architecture at Regent Street Polytechnic in 1962, where he met Roger Waters and Nick Mason. They co-founded The Sigma 6, and Wright dropped out in 1964 to attend the College of Music. When Syd Barrett joined, they became The Tea Set, then The Pink Floyd Sound. Wright was behind Interstellar Overdrive and their psychedelic sound of 1966. In August 1967, they appeared in the 14 Hour Technicolor Dream at Alexandra Palace and the Tonite Let's All Make Love In London. They hit with See Emily Play and The Piper At The Gates Of Dawn followed. David Gilmour was drafted in when Barrett became drug dependent, and he left to cut The Madcap Laughs and Barrett, on which Wright played. A Saucercol Of Secrets featured Wright’s Remember A Day and See-Saw, plus the co-written title track. 1969’s More film soundtrack was followed by Unmagguma, featuring Wright’s Syssyphus, and he played with Chimeera. 1970’s Atom Heart Mother made No 1, followed by Meddle, Obscured By Clouds and 1973’s No 2 The Dark Side Of The Moon, featuring Wright’s The Great Gig In The Sky and co-writes Breathe, Any Colour You Like and Us And Them.

The 1974 film, At Pompeii, was followed by Wish You Were Here, 1976’s Animals No 1 and Wright’s 1978 Wet Dream, before 1979’s The Wall. When Wright showed up late for a tour, Waters ejected him from the group. Another Brick In The Wall (Part II) made UK No 1 and Wright undertook a tour as a contract player, 1983-85, Wright played with Zee and issued Identity. Waters then left Floyd and, in 1987, Wright rejoined on a contract, and in 1988 as a full member. He guested on 1987’s A Momentary Lapse Of Reason and contributed to 1992’s La Carrera Panamericana. He toured Pulse and wrote five songs for The Division Bell, singing Wearing The Inside Out. His solo Broken China appeared in 1996, featuring Sinead O’Connor, and Floyd reunited for Live 8 in 2005. Wright played on Gilmour’s 2006 On An Island and its tour, and he was working on a solo album.