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## Vera Lynn, 92, tops the charts

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At age 92, **Dame Vera Lynn** has beaten the **Arctic Monkeys** and even **The Beatles** to capture the No. 1 record in Britain. The singer became the oldest living artist to have a No. 1 record in Britain yesterday when her album *We'll Meet Again – The Very Best of Vera Lynn* took the top spot. **Elvis Costello** is set to debut *The Costello Show Series*, a selection of rare live recordings from throughout his career, with *Live at the El Mocambo*, a heavily bootlegged concert from March 6, 1978, in Toronto. The 14-song set is due Sept. 29. **Jim Carroll**, the poet and punk rocker who wrote *The Basketball Diaries*, died Friday from a heart attack. He was 60. Carroll published several poetry collections, but it was *The Basketball Diaries*, his autobiographical tale of life as a sports star at an elite high school in Manhattan, that brought his widest audience.

Memories of **Bea Arthur**, the star of stage (*Fiddler on the Roof*, *Mame*) and TV (*Maude* and *The Golden Girls*) filled Broadway's Majestic Theatre yesterday as friends, family and co-stars recalled the actress who died in April of cancer at age 86. The celebration was hosted by **Angela Lansbury**.

*Star wire services*