

Eldon Gorst

Titles: 2 Sources: 1 Stills: 1

Born: Scheveningen, Netherlands; August 14th 1922
Died: Los Angeles, March 2nd 1950, by suicide



"He had enormous self-possession and an impish charm which he used ruthlessly on the great singer"
Source: *The Moving Picture Boy*

The Moving Picture Boy entry:

"His father – a remarkable personality with a passionate sense of justice – had begun adult life as an actor, but marriage convinced him of the need for a more reliable income and he entered the consular service: thus it was that Eldon was born in Holland.

After some stage experience in England - "A Midsummer Night's Dream", "Where the Rainbow Ends" – he was chosen to play Tom Tulliver (James Mason) as a boy in "**THE MILL ON THE FLOSS**", and then got a leading part in "**THE BIG FELLA**", as a genteel runaway who is given shelter by a friendly black seaman (Paul Robeson).

Eldon – billed as "Eldon Grant" in the latter film – was small for his age. He had enormous self-possession and an impish charm which he used ruthlessly on the great singer.

His only other screen appearance in Britain was as a teenager in "**GOODBYE, MR CHIPS**" (39). After his beloved father's untimely death, his mother married a Hungarian and the family was overtaken by the war. The two boys succeeded in leaving Hungary, and Eldon went to the USA, where he joined the Royal Canadian Air Force.

After the war, he did his best to make a living, while keeping his mother and sisters in

Budapest supplied with food parcels. He was in "Leave Her to Heaven" on the Broadway stage (40, with Ruth Chatterton) and the film "THE EXILE" (48, with Douglas Fairbanks Jr). With plans of marriage, he developed a skill in cabinetmaking to supplement his modest income as an actor.

Then, just as this new venture had begun to prosper, he was the innocent party in a car crash, and sustained a head injury which seriously affected his ability to concentrate and memorise. Nothing seemed left, and eventually, in despair at the ruin of his hopes, the unlucky Eldon Gorst shot himself."

FILMOGRAPHY			
Year	Age	Title	
deb	37	15	THE MILL ON THE FLOSS
	37		THE BIG FELLA