

David Ladd

Titles: 0

Sources: 0

Stills: 0

Born:

Lanky, freckled child star of the silent period. Nothing further is known about him

Halliwell's Filmgoer's Companion entry:

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The Moving Picture Boy entry:

“David was the son of ALan Ladd and his second wife, Sue Carol. As a child he won several awards for dancing. His part in "**THE BIG LAND**" was only marginal, but he had leads in his other four early films. He was an outstandingly gentle little boy, quite without his father's cold-eyed cockiness. (Alan starred in his first two films.) In "**THE PROUD REBEL**" - which earned him a Critics' Award - David plays a mute boy; in "**A DOG OF FLANDERS**", a sensitive child who learns to paint; in "**THE SAD HORSE**" a little cripple.

Pathos was his strong suit, but he kept sickliness at bay. When his father wasn't in the film, he often shared the honours with a dog and/or horse. In his 20s David returned to movies, with supporting roles in "**R.P.M.**" (70), "**CATLOW**" (GB 71), "**DEATH LINE**" (GB 72), "**JONATHAN LIVINGSTON SEAGULL**" (73), "**THE KLANSMAN**" (74), "**THE DAY OF THE LOCUST**" (75), "**EVIL IN THE DEEP**" (76), "**THE WILD GEESE**" (GB 77), "**CAPTIVE**" (80) and "**BEYOND THE UNIVERSE**" (81).”

Those Endearing Young Charms entry on Ladd:

“David Ladd, the son of film star Alan Ladd and former actress Sue Carol, was the youngest of four children but the first to follow in his parents' footsteps. His "living room" theatrics and driving interest in films and movie stars during his pre-school days made it clear to his family that he would one day be an actor. At first David acted only in school

productions, receiving recognition strictly from his own peers. In 1957 his father landed him a role in "**THE BIG LAND**", and even though it was a minor part, it managed to set the pace for future assignments in "**THE PROUD REBEL**" and "**A DOG OF FLANDERS**", which established David as one of the top flight moppet stars of the fifties¹.

David not only was a good actor but he was also a first-rate dancer with several awards under his belt. And when he wasn't acting or dancing, he enjoyed swimming, diving, fishing, horseback riding, reading, making model planes, and playing with his four dogs on the ranch in Hidden Valley, California. He was educated at the Black Fox Military Academy and the Harvard Military Academy in Los Angeles. For "**THE PROUD REBEL**", David won the Critics' Award for giving one of the top ten juvenile performances of 1958. Also that year he won "the best child actor award" from Photoplay magazine. His picture "**A DOG OF FLANDERS**" won the Grand Prix award at the 1960 Venice Children's Film Festival."

¹ *even as the author of a book cooing all over child actors, he still reaches for the epithet "moppets"!*

FILMOGRAPHY

Year	Age	Title	Role
19		DADDY LONG LEGS	
19		THE UNPARDONABLE SIN with <i>Bobby Connelly</i>	"George Washington Sticker"
20-22		RAGS TO RICHES	(first film for Warner Bros)
20-22		SCHOOL DAYS	
21		BOB HAMPTON OF PLACER	
22		PENROD with <i>Gordon Griffith, Clara Horton, Sunshine Sammy Morrison, Florence Morrison</i>	title role
23		THE COUNTRY KID with <i>"Spec" O'Donnell, Bruce Guerin</i>	
23		THE PRINTER'S DEVIL	
23		HEROES OF THE STREET with <i>Joe Butterworth</i>	
24		GEORGE WASHINGTON, Jr	