

# The Guy Who Came Back

US : 1951 : dir. Joseph M Newman : 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox : 92 min  
prod: Julian Blaustein : scr: Allan Scott : dir.ph.: Joseph La Shelle  
[Billy Gray](#) .....  
Paul Douglas; Linda Darnell; Joan Bennett; Don DeFore; Zero Mostel; Edmon Ryan;  
Ruth McDevitt; Walter Burke; Henry Kulky; Dick Ryan; Robert B Williams; Ted Pearson

| Ref: | Pages | Sources | Stills | Words | Ω | 8 | ≠ | M | ⌘ | Copy on VHS | Last Viewed |
|------|-------|---------|--------|-------|---|---|---|---|---|-------------|-------------|
| 5359 | 1.5   | 4       | 1      | 491   | 3 | - | - | - | - | No          | Unseen      |



Many happy returns?

Source: *The Moving Picture Boy*

**Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001** review:

"Cast is above such material but does well by it: ex-football star tries to "find himself". \*\* "

**Speelfilm Encyclopedie** review – identical to above

**Halliwell's Film Guide** review

"A pro football player hates the thought of retiring. Sentimental sporting drama without much life in it."

**Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89** review:

"Soap opera about a formal football star who can't seem to make it after his career comes to a standstill due to an injury. \*\* "

**The Films of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox** review:

"A pro football player (Paul Douglas) refuses a job as a coach when his days as a player come to an end. He idly dreams of making a comeback, leaves his wife (Joan Bennett), takes up with another woman (Linda Darnell), and picks up a little money as a wrestler. The other woman comes to realise he will never divorce his wife, so she joins forces with her to get him back on his old team. Because of the shortage of manpower caused by the war, he gets his chance to play again but soon comes to his senses about his ability and settles for the job as the coach. Paul Douglas makes the vain chump understandable and likeable."

[no listing in "The Critics' Film Guide", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "The Sunday Times Guide to Movies on Television", "The Time Out Film Guide", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993", "Video Movie Guide 1993" or "The Virgin Film Guide"]

No further information currently available. If it weren't for the still, one wouldn't give such a storyline a second glance. The only source to name Billy Gray in the cast lists him after the four principals, so his part can't be too minor. Presumably Douglas's son. He was 13, the same year that he played Bobby Benson, all-American kid, in "**THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL**". Few of his other titles are so well known – "**THE STRANGE AFFAIR OF UNCLE HARRY**" (45), "**GENE AUTRY AND THE MOUNTIES**" (50), "**TALK ABOUT A STRANGER**" (52) – and he seldom seems to have played a central role. Even as Wesley in the two Doris Day musicals, "**ON MOONLIGHT BAY**" (51) and "**BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON**" (53), his character is pared down to standard "kid brother" proportions.

See subject index under **SPORT**.