

Guy Madison

Guy Madison was born Robert Ozell Moseley in Pumpkin Center, California. He attended Bakersfield College, a junior college, for two years and then worked briefly as a telephone lineman. He then joined the United States Navy in 1942 and served in World War II. He had three brothers, Wayne, Harold and David, and a sister, Rosemary. Wayne Moseley was an actor, using the stage name Wayne Mallory.

In 1944, while he was visiting Hollywood on leave, the young Navy man's boyish good looks and physique caught the eye of Henry Willson, the head of talent at David O. Selznick's newly formed Vanguard Pictures. Willson was widely known for his stable of good-looking, marginally-talented actors with unusual names that he had bestowed upon them. He rechristened Moseley as Madison and cast him in a bit part as a sailor in Selznick's 1944 film Since You Went Away. However, following the film's release, the studio received thousands of letters from fans wanting to know more about him.

Madison was signed by RKO Pictures in 1946 and began appearing in romantic comedies and dramas. In 1951 he was cast as the title character in The Adventures of Wild Bill Hickok, co-starring Andy Devine as his pal, Pete "Jingles" Jones. The series ran simultaneously on radio and television until 1958 and would define his acting career. During the run of the show, sixteen feature films were released by Monogram Pictures between 1952 and 1955 that consisted of combined episodes of the series. Following his television series, he appeared in several more U.S. movies before leaving for Europe, where he found greater success in sword-and-sandal films, spaghetti westerns and macaroni combat films.

Madison would marry twice and have four children: Robert, Dolly Ann, Erin Patricia, and Bridget Catherine. Ultimately, Madison would have 85 radio, television, and film appearances. Madison would pass away February 6, 1996 in Palm Springs California. He was 74.

For the Old Time Radio Researchers, I'm your announcer, Patrick André.