

Paul Dubov
Kurt Schrieffer

Versatile character actor Paul Dubov was born October 10, 1918 in Illinois. Information on his early life is scant, but by the age of 20 he seems to have already been picking up uncredited roles in minor Hollywood films. Within a few years the pace of his work in film picked up, but the movies continued to be of little note and the vast majority of his appearances uncredited. The early 1940s also saw initial forays into radio; in 1940 and 1941 Dubov is known to have participated in several broadcasts of the *Lux Radio Theatre* and *Great Plays* series, and in 1944 he can be found contributing some announcing on the *I Sustain The Wings* offerings of Glenn Miller and the Band of the AAF Training Command.

In the latter part of the 1940s and through much of the following decade Dubov's voice becomes ubiquitous on the air. He played anything and everything, with a strong emphasis on omnibus programs such as *Escape* and *Lux Radio Theatre*, but he was also a very frequent contributor on *The Adventures of Philip Marlowe*, *Yours Truly*, *Johnny Dollar*, *Gunsmoke*, *Nightbeat*, *Dangerous Assignment*, *Have Gun, Will Travel*, and many others. He scored brief leading role assignments in the later runs of both *The Adventures of Frank Race* and *Jeff Regan, Investigator*, and had one other recurring role in the short-lived radio sitcom of 1951 *You Can't Take It With You* based on the Kaufman and Hart play (of which no recordings appear to survive).

By the early 1960s, although the radio work had wound down guest starring roles on a wide variety of television programs kept coming. But somewhere along the way, Paul had most likely encountered prolific radio and television writer Gwen Bagni, who with her husband John had won the 1953 best teleplay award from the Writers Guild of America for *The Last Voyage*, and in the early 1960s he and Gwen, now widowed, developed a romantic relationship. The result was not only a 1963 marriage, but the beginning of a screenwriting team that sold the story of their own courtship as the 1968 Doris Day-Brian Keith vehicle *With Six You Get Egg Roll*. Paul and Gwen also co-wrote numerous episodes of the *Burke's Law* television series and co-developed another private eye program called *Honey West*. For their final effort as co-authors, in 1979 they penned the TV miniseries *Backstairs at the White House*, winning a Writers Guild award, and published a best-selling novel version of that title as well. Shortly after sounding this career high note, Paul Dubov passed away in Encino, CA on September 20, 1979. Gwen outlived him by many years, dying in Los Angeles on May 13, 2001.