

# Les Damon

Les was of medium height and build with brown hair and blue eyes and played football, baseball and tennis in high school. While attending high school in Providence, Les was railroaded into playing a non-singing role in the school opera and enjoyed this so much that he stayed in Providence for several years after to play with the Albee Stock Company while he attended Brown University and the Rhode Island School of Design. After a short time in Stockbridge, MA, he set out for The Old Vic Theatre in England (1934-35 season). He then returned to the US and got his big break as the role of Babyface Martin in 'Dead End.' He also toured with a company starring as Curley in 'Of Mice and Men.'

The touring plays led him to Chicago where he first tried his talents in radio. Most of the radio serials moved to New York in 1940 and so did Les. A year later he had his first starring role when the 'Adventures of the Thin Man' premiered on July 2, 1941. Les never missed a Thin Man performance until joining the Army on February 15, 1944 and while in the Army Les was attached to the Armed Forces Radio Service - including a year in the China-Burma-India theater where he earned the Bronze Star.

Les was discharged on March 21, 1946 and returned to his role as The Thin Man on May 6 after his second honeymoon with his actress-wife, Ginger Jones.

Best remembered for his roles on television including, 'Rosie Rittenhouse' in "Kitty Foyle" (1960), 'James "Jim" Lowell' in "As The World Turns" (1956-1957), 'Bruce Banning' in "The Guiding Light" (1956-1960), 'Tillbury' in "Have Gun Will Travel" and 'Mr. Tebbetts' and 'Dr. Seefer' in "The Honeymooners."

Les died at the UCLA medical center of a heart ailment on July 21, 1962 at age 53, leaving behind his wife Virginia, a daughter, Lisa, and a sister, Mrs. Arthur Silva, of Providence.

Date of Birth: 31 March 1908, Providence, Rhode Island, USA

Birth Name: Lester Damon

Date of Death: 21 July 1962, Los Angeles, California, USA

Burial: Beverly National Cemetery, Beverly Burlington County, New Jersey, USA

Plot: Section X. Grave 4393

## Radiography

Actor:

1. "The Adventures of the Thin Man" .... Nick Charles (1941-1943)
2. "Words At War" (1943-1944)
3. "Adventures of the Abbotts" .... Pat Abbott (1945-1947)
4. "The Adventures of Christopher Wells" .... Christopher Wells (1947-1948)
5. "Cavalcade of America" (1949-1953)
6. "The Falcon" .... Michael Waring (1950-1952)
7. "21st Precinct" .... Captain Keough (1956)
8. "X Minus One" (1955-1957)
  - Zero Hour (November 23, 1955)
  - Marionettes (December 21, 1955)
  - Tunnel Under the World (March 14, 1956)
  - How To (April 3, 1956)
  - Hostess (December 12, 1956)
  - Field Study (February 20, 1957)

- A Wind Is Rising (October 3, 1957)
- 9. "Suspense" (1962)
  - The Lunatic Hour (June 17, 1962)

## Filmography

### Actor:

1. "Have Gun - Will Travel" .... Tillbury (1 episode, 1962)
  - Shootout at Hogtooth (1962) TV episode .... Tillbury
2. "The Detectives Starring Robert Taylor" .... Carter (1 episode, 1962)
  - ... aka Robert Taylor's Detectives (new title)
  - ... aka The Detectives
  - ... aka The Detectives, Starring Robert Taylor
  - The Fourth Commandment (1962) TV episode .... Carter
3. "The Dick Powell Show" .... Mr. Somers (1 episode, 1962)
  - ... aka The Dick Powell Theatre (USA: new title)
  - 330 Independence SW (1962) TV episode .... Mr. Somers
4. "Window on Main Street" .... Earl Greenough (1 episode, 1961)
  - College (1961) TV episode .... Earl Greenough
5. "The New Breed" .... Sumner Rath (1 episode)
  - Episode #1.26 (????) TV episode .... Sumner Rath
6. "Kitty Foyle" (1958) TV series .... Rosie Rittenhouse
7. "The Edge of Night" (1956) TV series .... Asst. Dist. Atty. Ed Palmerlee #2 (unknown episodes, 1957-1958)
  - ... aka Edge of Night (USA: last season title)
8. "Decoy" .... Mr. Kitteridge (1 episode)
  - ... aka Policewoman Decoy (USA: rerun title)
  - Dream Fix (????) TV episode .... Mr. Kitteridge
9. "As the World Turns" (1956) TV series .... James 'Jim' Lowell, Jr. (1956-1957) (original cast) (unknown episodes)
10. "The Guiding Light" (1952) TV series .... Bruce Banning #1 (unknown episodes, 1956-1960)
  - ... aka Guiding Light (USA: new title)
11. "The Honeymooners" .... Dr. Seefer / ... (4 episodes, 1955-1956)
  - The Safety Award (1956) TV episode (uncredited)
  - A Dog's Life (1956) TV episode .... Mr. Tebbetts
  - Pal O' Mine (1955) TV episode (uncredited) .... Dr. Seefer
  - A Matter of Life and Death (1955) TV episode
12. "Robert Montgomery Presents" .... Mose Higgins (1 episode, 1956)
  - ... aka Lucky Strike Theater
  - ... aka Montgomery's Summer Stock
  - ... aka The Robert Montgomery Summer Theater
  - Mr. Tutt Bait a Hook (1956) TV episode .... Mose Higgins
13. "The Jackie Gleason Show" .... Frank (1 episode, 1954)
  - Stand-In for Murder (1954) TV episode .... Frank