

Gil Doud

Adapted from Ryan Ellett's *Radio Drama and Comedy writers, 1928 – 1962*

Gil Doud's name is synonymous with old time radio programming that originated from West Coast studios in the late 1940s and 1950s. Doud's roots stretch halfway across the country, however, to Winona, MN where he was born on March 1, 1914. His birth name Giles Budlong Doud, Jr. would eventually be shortened to the professional name that is so familiar to hobbyists today.

After just one year of college Doud ended up in the radio business. His earliest known work was at L.A.'s KHJ working as a sound effects artist and writer for *Calling all Cars* before the outbreak of World War II. After being discharged from the armed services Doud turned again to radio scripting and attached his name to some of the most memorable series of all time. Upon taking over *The Adventures of Sam Spade* in 1947 Doud found himself teamed with Bob Tallman who became his collaborator for the next two years, not only on *Spade* but also on *The Voyage of the Scarlet Queen*.

Gil Doud's scripts were also used on series such as *Fort Laramie*, *Gunsmoke*, and *Suspense*. He was beginning to find more work in motion pictures and television throughout the 1950s when he died from hepatitis at the young age of 43 on December 17, 1957.