

= David Carradine =

David Carradine ( born John Arthur Carradine ; December 8 , 1936 ? June 3 , 2009 ) was an American actor and martial artist , best known for his leading role as a peace @-@ loving Shaolin monk , Kwai Chang Caine , in the 1970s television series Kung Fu . He was a member of a productive acting family that began with his father , John Carradine . Carradine 's acting career , which included major and minor roles on stage and television , and in cinema , spanned over four decades . A prolific " B " movie actor , he appeared in more than 100 feature films and was nominated four times for a Golden Globe Award . The last nomination was for his title role in Quentin Tarantino 's Kill Bill : Volume 2 ( 2004 ) .

Films that featured Carradine continued to be released after his death . These posthumous credits were from a variety of genres including action , documentaries , drama , horror , martial arts , science fiction , and westerns . In addition to his acting career , Carradine was a director and musician . Moreover , influenced by his most popular acting role , he studied martial arts .

He had been frequently arrested and prosecuted for a variety of offenses , which often involved substance abuse . He died on June 3 , 2009 , from asphyxiation , in a hotel room in Bangkok , Thailand ; the main report states it was an auto @-@ erotic asphyxiation ; though some have said he may have been murdered .

= = Early life = =

Carradine was born on December 8 , 1936 as John Arthur Carradine , in Hollywood , California , the oldest child of actor John Carradine and his wife Ardanelle ( McCool ) . He was a half @-@ brother of Bruce , Keith , Christopher , and Robert Carradine , and an uncle of Ever Carradine and Martha Plimpton . Primarily of Irish descent , he was a great @-@ grandson of Methodist evangelical author Beverly Carradine and a grandnephew of artist Will Foster .

Called Jack by his family , Carradine 's childhood was turbulent . For example , his parents divorced and repeatedly remarried ; he was born to his mother 's second marriage of three , and his father 's first of four . At the time of Carradine 's parents ' marriage , his mother already had a son by her first husband , whom John adopted . John Carradine planned a large family , but after his wife had a series of miscarriages , he discovered she had had numerous illegal abortions without his knowledge . This rendered her unable to carry a baby to full term . Against this backdrop of marital discord , Jack almost succeeded in committing suicide by hanging at the age of five . He said the incident followed his discovery that he and his older half @-@ brother Bruce , who had been adopted by John , had different biological fathers . Carradine added , " My father saved me , and then confiscated my comic book collection and burned it ? which was scarcely the point " .

After three years of marriage , Ardenelle filed for divorce from John , but the couple remained married for another five years . Divorce finally came in 1944 , when Jack was seven years old . His father left California to avoid court action in the alimony settlement . After the couple engaged in a series of court battles over child custody and alimony , which at one point landed John in jail , Jack joined his father in New York City . By this time , his father had remarried . For the next few years Jack was shuffled between boarding schools , foster homes , and reform school . He also would often accompany his father while the elder Carradine performed summer theater throughout the Northeast . The boy spent time in Massachusetts and even one miserable winter milking cows on a farm in Vermont .

Eventually , Jack Carradine returned to California , where he graduated from Oakland High School . He attended Oakland Junior College ( currently Laney College ) for a year before transferring to San Francisco State College , where he studied drama and music theory , and wrote music for the drama department 's annual revues while juggling work at menial jobs , a fledgling stage acting career , and his studies . After he dropped out of college , Carradine spent some time with the " beatniks " of San Francisco 's North Beach and southern California 's Venice . During this time he collected unemployment insurance and sold baby pictures . He was also prosecuted for disturbing the peace .

Despite an attempt to dodge the draft , in 1960 Carradine was inducted into the United States Army , where he drew pictures for training aids . That Christmas he married his high school sweetheart , Donna Lee Becht . While stationed at Fort Eustis , Virginia he helped to establish a theater company which became known as the " entertainment unit " . He met fellow inductee , Larry Cohen , who later cast him in Q , The Winged Serpent . He also faced court @-@ martial for shoplifting . In 1962 , Donna gave birth to their daughter , Calista . Carradine was honorably discharged after a two @-@ year tour .

= = Film and television career = =

= = = Early successes = = =

Upon leaving the Army , Carradine became serious about his acting pursuits . It was at that time that he was advised to change his name to avoid confusion with his famous father . In 1963 , he made his television debut on an episode of Armstrong Circle Theatre . Several other television roles were to follow including appearances on Bob Hope Presents the Chrysler Theatre , and The Alfred Hitchcock Hour . He made his feature film debut in 1964 in Taggart , a western based on a novel by Louis L 'Amour .

His first " big break " , however , came with his second Broadway part in The Royal Hunt of the Sun , a play by Peter Shaffer about the destruction of the Inca empire by conquistador Francisco Pizarro . He said of this performance , " Many of the important roles that I got later on were because the guy who was going to hire me was in that audience and had his mind blown . " For that part , Carradine won a Theatre World Award for Best Debut Performance in 1965 .

With the closing of The Royal Hunt of the Sun , and the failing of his marriage , Carradine left New York and headed back to California . He returned to TV to star in the short @-@ lived series Shane , a 1966 western based upon a 1949 novel of the same name and previously filmed in 1953 .

Carradine guest @-@ starred opposite David McCallum in a 1971 episode of Night Gallery entitled " The Phantom Farmhouse . "

In 1972 , he co @-@ starred as ' Big ' Bill Shelly in one of Martin Scorsese 's earliest films , Boxcar Bertha , which starred Barbara Hershey , his domestic partner at the time ( see Personal life ) . This was one of several Roger Corman productions in which he was to appear . It was also one of a handful of acting collaborations he made with his father , John .

= = = Kung Fu = = =

For three seasons , David Carradine starred as a half @-@ Chinese , half @-@ white Shaolin monk , Kwai Chang Caine , on the ABC hit TV series Kung Fu ( 1972 ? 1975 ) and was nominated for an Emmy and a Golden Globe Award for the role . The show , which took place in the Old West , helped to popularize the martial arts and Eastern philosophy in the west , and immortalized the character of Kwai Chang Caine , also referred to as " Grasshopper " , in popular culture .

Although the choice of a white man to play the role of Kwai Chang Caine stirred controversy , the show served as steady employment for several Asian @-@ American actors in the U.S. In addition to Keye Luke and Philip Ahn , who held leading roles in the cast as Caine 's Shaolin masters , Robert Ito , James Hong , Benson Fong , Richard Loo , and Victor Sen Yung frequently appeared in the series . Kung Fu ended when Carradine quit to pursue a movie career , but he reprised the role of Kwai Chang Caine in 1986 in Kung Fu : The Movie . Brandon Lee , son of Bruce Lee , in his acting debut , portrayed his son .

In 1991 , he reprised the role of Caine in a cameo appearance in the TV movie The Gambler Returns : The Luck of the Draw , in which Caine uses his Chinese friends to help the title character in 1903 San Francisco .

Early in the 1990s , Carradine once again reprised the role of Kwai Chang Caine in Kung Fu : The Legend Continues ( 1993 ? 97 ) playing the grandson of the original character of the same name .

Carradine starred in the program and served as executive producer and director . The program offered him the opportunity to recreate the character for which he was most widely recognized . The show was canceled in 1997 , after four seasons and 88 episodes .

= = = Movie career = = =

Immediately following the Kung Fu series , Carradine accepted the role as the race car driver Frankenstein in Death Race 2000 ( 1975 ) , he said , to " kill the image of Caine and launch a movie career " . The Roger Corman exploitation film became a cult classic . It was based on Ib Melchior 's first science fiction work , a short story called The Racer .

In 1976 , Carradine earned critical praise for his portrayal of folksinger Woody Guthrie in Hal Ashby 's Bound for Glory ( 1976 ) for which he won a National Board of Review Award for Best Actor . He was also nominated for a Golden Globe Award and New York Film Critics Circle Award for his role as Guthrie . Carradine worked very closely with his friend , singer @-@ songwriter @-@ guitarist Guthrie Thomas , on the Bound for Glory film . Thomas assisted Carradine in the guitar style of the period and the songs that had been chosen to be in the film itself .

Next came the role of the alcoholic , unemployed trapeze artist , Abel Rosenberg in The Serpent 's Egg ( 1977 ) . Set in post @-@ World War I Berlin , The Serpent 's Egg , which also starred Liv Ullmann , is together with The Touch one of the two only English @-@ language films made by legendary Swedish director Ingmar Bergman . Bergman said of his leading man , " I don 't believe in God , but Heaven must have sent him . " Carradine said that he and Bergman had plans for further collaboration , but the director 's affection for the actor waned when the latter passionately protested a scene which included the butchering of a horse . The altercation caused Carradine to question the fate of Bergman 's soul while the director declared , " Little Brother , I am an old whore . I have shot two other horses , burned one and strangled a dog . "

In 2000 he had a small part in the movie " By Dawn 's Early Light " .

When Bruce Lee died in 1973 , he left an unreleased movie script that he had developed with James Coburn and Stirling Silliphant called The Silent Flute . The script became Circle of Iron ( 1978 ) , and in the film , Carradine played the four roles that were originally intended for Lee . Carradine considered this to be among his best work .

In 1980 Carradine appeared in The Long Riders ( 1980 ) , with his half @-@ brothers Keith and Robert Carradine . The ensemble cast included three other brother / actor groupings : Stacy and James Keach ; Dennis and Randy Quaid , and Christopher and Nicholas Guest . The movie , which was about the Jesse James gang , gave Carradine , who played Cole Younger , one of his most memorable roles .

Throughout most of the 1980s and 1990s , David Carradine 's acting career suffered a decline . Although he continued to amass movie and television credits , few of his roles garnered much attention . Most of his work was released straight to video . However , a few of his movies , such as The Warrior and the Sorceress ( 1984 ) , Sundown : The Vampire in Retreat ( 1990 ) and Sonny Boy ( 1989 ) , developed cult followings . In 1989 , he starred in the low budget direct @-@ to @-@ video Swedish action movie The Mad Bunch directed by Mats Helge Olsson , making him one of three actors ( including Heinz Hopf and Tor Isedal ) who have starred in both an Ingmar Bergman movie and an Olsson movie . In 1997 , Carradine was awarded a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame . The presenters played an " April Fool 's Day " prank on him by first unveiling a star bearing the name of his brother , Robert .

Carradine enjoyed a revival of his fame when he was cast in Quentin Tarantino 's sequential Kill Bill movies , in 2003 and 2004 . Among those who thought his portrayal of Bill , the assassin extraordinaire , would earn him an Academy Award nomination was Scott Mantz , of The Mediadrome , who said , " Carradine practically steals every scene he 's in with confident gusto , and he gives a soulful performance that should all but ensure a spot on next year 's Oscar ballot . " Roger Ebert and Richard Roeper each had Kill Bill Vol . 2 on their top ten list for of Academy Awards predictions . Although the films received no notice from the Academy , Carradine did receive a Golden Globe nomination and a Saturn Award , for Best Supporting Actor for his portrayal of Bill .

Carradine also appeared as a mysterious martial artist , The Master , in the 2009 DVD premier Big Stan .

= = = Television appearances = = =

Carradine attracted notice in 1985 when he appeared in a major supporting role in North and South , a miniseries about the American Civil War , as the evil and abusive Justin LaMotte . He was nominated for a Golden Globe for Best Supporting Actor for his performance . He also appeared in North and South , Book II , telecast in May 1986 .

In addition , he was featured in a Lipton Tea commercial , which first aired during the broadcast of Super Bowl XXVIII . The advertisement paid tribute to The Three Stooges while satirizing his role in Kung Fu . In 2001 , he appeared in the episode The Serpent of the syndicated TV series Queen of Swords as the sword @-@ wielding bandit El Serpiente filmed at Texas Hollywood studios in Almeria , Spain , home of many spaghetti westerns . David also did a guest appearance in episode 11 of Lizzie McGuire as himself . David Carradine took over hosting duties from his brother Keith on Wild West Tech on the History Channel , in 2005 . The same year he also played both himself and the ghost of a dead man for an episode of the NBC TV show Medium . By 2006 , he had become the spokesperson for Yellowbook , a publisher of independent telephone directories in the United States . He also appeared as the ghost of time , Clockwork , in two episodes of the animated series , Danny Phantom . He also starred in the 2008 TV movie , Kung Fu Killer , in which he played a Chinese martial arts master very similar to his Kung Fu series " Caine " persona ? his character in this movie named " White Crane " , and mostly referred to or addressed as " Crane " , frequently spoken with a sort of accent that minimized the R sound .

= = = Posthumous releases = = =

The actor , who once received an award for being the hardest working member of his profession in Hollywood , still had approximately a dozen films in " post @-@ production " at the time of his death in 2009 . Most of these roles were cameos or small parts in independent , direct to DVD productions . Among them , a horror film , Dark Fields ( 2009 ) ; an action film , Bad Cop ( 2009 ) ; and a western , All Hell Broke Loose ( 2009 ) .

Carradine also appeared in a minor role in Yuen Woo @-@ ping 's Chinese kung fu epic True Legend . Carradine and Yuen first met while filming Kill Bill . Yuen eulogized Carradine on the True Legend website , describing him as a " good friend " . Yuen said of Carradine , " ' He is among the first Hollywood actors to perform Chinese martial arts on the big screen . In real life he is also a genuine kung fu fan , and knows tai chi , qi gong and Chinese medicine . Same as I , people shall always remember his role as Caine , the grasshopper , in Kung Fu , in the ' 70s , which was a really unforgettable performance . I feel both great honour and regret that True Legend is one of David Carradine 's last works . ' "

One of Carradine 's last leading roles was in the period drama Golden Boys , set in 1905 . It had only a limited theater run , and received little critical attention . It was released on DVD shortly after his death .

His final released movie was the Cult Indy Film , Night of the Templar , directed by his friend Paul Sampson , in which David wielded a sword ( katana ) for the final time on screen . Almost like a foreshadowing , there are several peculiar and eerie references in the film that are coincidental to Mr. Carradine 's untimely passing which include cross dressing and auto erotic asphyxiation . His last scene on screen ended in the following dialog : " Well , old friend , see you in the next life time ... " Yeah , Old Friends , Old Soul Mates " ... " Yes , we are .

Carradine co @-@ produced a full @-@ length documentary about luthier Stuart Mossman , which has been identified as the actor 's last film appearance . The Legend of Stuart Mossman : A Modern Stradivari , directed by Barry Brown , premiered at the Santa Barbara International Film Festival , in February 2010 . It featured David , Keith and Robert Carradine performing their music on Mossman guitars . Mossman had appeared with Carradine in Cloud Dancer ( 1980 ) , which Brown also

directed , and in The Long Riders .

On the small screen , Carradine appeared in a guest spot on the television series Mental that was broadcast just days after his death . On October 3 , 2009 , Celebrity Ghost Stories premiered on the Biography Channel with an interview of David Carradine discussing his belief that his closet was haunted by his wife 's deceased previous husband . The segment , which was described as " eerie " , was filmed four months before his own death . In his last of many collaborations with producer Roger Corman , Carradine appeared in the Syfy Channel 's science fiction monster movie Dinocroc Vs . Supergator , over a year after he died . Ken Tucker , writing for Entertainment Weekly , said the film was " impeccable " and " goofy fun all the way " . At the time of this release , there were still four more unreleased films that credited David Carradine , including Stretch , which he was filming at the time of his death .

= = Directing career = =

Carradine made his directorial debut on three episodes of Kung Fu . While still performing on Kung Fu , he tried his hand at directing some independent films of his own . Americana ( 1983 ) , took ten years to complete due to difficulty in financing . It featured Carradine in the starring role and several of his friends and family members in supporting roles . The film won the People 's Choice Award at the Director 's Fortnight at Cannes , but failed to achieve critical support or adequate distribution . Other directorial attempts included You and Me ( 1975 ) , and two unreleased productions : Mata Hari , an epic that starred his daughter , Calista ; and a short musical called A Country Mile .

= = Martial artist = =

Carradine knew nothing of the practice of kung fu at the time he was cast in the role of Kwai Chang Caine , instead he relied on his experience as a dancer for the part . He also had experience in sword fighting , boxing , and street fighting on which to draw . For the first half of the original series , David Chow provided technical assistance with kung fu . He never considered himself a master of the art , but rather an " evangelist " of kung fu . By 2003 he had acquired enough expertise in martial arts to produce and star in several instructional videos on T 'ai chi and Qigong . In 2005 , Carradine visited the Shaolin Monastery in Henan , China as part of the extra features for the third season of the Kung Fu DVDs . During his visit , the abbot , Shi Y?ngxin , said that he recognized Carradine 's important contribution to the promotion of the Shaolin Monastery and kung fu culture , to which Carradine replied , " I am happy to serve . "

= = Music career = =

In addition to his acting career , David Carradine was a musician . He sang and played the piano , the guitar and the flute among other instruments . In 1970 , Carradine played one half of a flower power beatnik duo in the season 4 Ironside episode ' The Quincunx ' , performing the songs ' I Stepped on a Flower ' , ' Lonesome Stranger ' and ' Sorrow of the Singing Tree ' . He recorded an album titled Grasshopper , which was released on Jet Records in 1975 . His musical talents were often integrated into his screen performances . He performed several of Woody Guthrie 's songs for the movie Bound for Glory . For the Kung Fu series he made flutes out of bamboo that he had planted on the Warner Brothers lot which he played on the program . He later made several flutes for the movie Circle of Iron , one of which he later played in Kill Bill . Carradine wrote and performed the theme songs for at least two movies that he starred in , Americana and Sonny Boy . The first line from the Sonny Boy theme , " Paint " , which he wrote while filming Americana in Drury , Kansas , in 1973 , is engraved on his headstone . He wrote and performed several songs for American Reel ( 2003 ) and wrote the score for You and Me . He and his brother , Robert , also performed with a band , the Cosmic Rescue Team ( also known as Soul Dogs ) . The band performed primarily in small venues and benefits .

= = Reports of arrests and prosecutions = =

By his own account , in the late 1950s , while living in San Francisco , young John A. Carradine was arrested for assaulting a police officer ; he pleaded to a lesser charge of disturbing the peace . While in the Army ( 1960 ? 62 ) he faced court @-@ martial , on more than one occasion , for shoplifting . After he became an established actor and had changed his name to David , he was arrested , in 1967 , for possession of marijuana .

At the height of his popularity in Kung Fu , in 1974 , Carradine was arrested again , this time for attempted burglary and malicious mischief . While under the influence of peyote , Carradine , nude , began wandering around his Laurel Canyon neighborhood . He broke into a neighbor 's home , breaking a window and cutting his arm . He then bled all over the homeowner 's piano . At some time during this episode he accosted two young women , allegedly assaulting one while asking , or demanding of her , if she was a witch . The police literally followed a trail of blood to his home . The burglary charges were dropped , as nothing was found to be missing , while Carradine pleaded " no contest " to the mischief charge and was given probation . He was never charged with assault , but the young woman sued him for \$ 1 @.@ 1 million and was awarded \$ 20 @,@ 000 .

In 1980 , while in South Africa filming Safari 3000 ( also known as Rally ) , which co @-@ starred Stockard Channing , Carradine was arrested for possession of marijuana . He was convicted and given a suspended sentence . He claimed that he was framed , in this case , by the apartheid government as he had been seen dancing with Tina Turner .

During the 1980s , Carradine was arrested at least twice for driving under the influence of alcohol , once in 1984 and again in 1989 . In the second case , Carradine pleaded " no contest " . Of this incident , the Los Angeles Times reported : " legal experts say Carradine was handed a harsher @-@ than @-@ average sentence , even for a second @-@ time offender : three years ' summary probation , 48 hours in jail , 100 hours of community service , 30 days ' work picking up trash for the California Department of Transportation , attendance at a drunk driving awareness meeting and completion of an alcohol rehabilitation program . "

In 1994 , while in Toronto filming Kung Fu : The Legend Continues , Carradine was arrested for kicking in a door at SkyDome while attending a Rolling Stones concert . When asked his reasoning , Carradine claimed he was " worried about getting swarmed by people who recognized him so he wanted to get into the building . "

= = Personal life = =

Shortly after being drafted into the Army in 1960 , Carradine proposed marriage to Donna Lee Becht ( born September 26 , 1937 ) , whom he had met while they were students at Oakland High School . They were married on Christmas Day that year . She lived with him off @-@ base in Virginia while he was stationed at Fort Eustis . In April 1962 , she gave birth to their daughter Calista . After Carradine 's discharge , the family lived in New York while Carradine established his acting career , appearing on Broadway in The Deputy and Royal Hunt of the Sun . The marriage dissolved in 1968 , whereupon Carradine left New York and headed back to California to continue his television and film careers .

In 1969 , Carradine met actress Barbara Hershey while the two of them were working on Heaven with a Gun . The pair lived together until 1975 . They appeared in other films together , including Martin Scorsese 's Boxcar Bertha . In 1972 , they appeared together in a nude Playboy spread , recreating some sex scenes from Boxcar Bertha . That year , Hershey gave birth to their son , Free ( who at age nine changed his name to Tom , much to his father 's chagrin ) . The couple 's relationship fell apart around the time of Carradine 's 1974 burglary arrest , when Carradine began an affair with Season Hubley , who had guest @-@ starred on Kung Fu . Carradine was engaged to Hubley for a time , but they never married .

In February 1977 , Carradine married , in a civil ceremony in Munich , Germany , his second wife , Linda ( née Linda Anne Gilbert , born March 16 , 1950 ) , immediately following the filming of The Serpent 's Egg . Linda is the former wife of The Byrds lead guitarist , Roger McGuinn , Her and

Carradine 's daughter Kansas was born April 19 , 1978 .

Carradine 's second marriage ended in divorce , as did the two that followed . He was married to Gail Jensen , from 1986 ? 1997 . She died in April 2010 , at the age of 60 , of an alcohol @-@ related illness . He was married to Marina Anderson from 1998 to 2001 . By this time , Carradine had proclaimed himself to be a " serial monogamist . "

On December 26 , 2004 , Carradine married the widowed Annie Bierman ( née Anne Kirstie Fraser , born December 21 , 1960 ) at the seaside Malibu home of his friend , Michael Madsen . Vicki Roberts , his attorney and a longtime friend of his wife 's , performed the ceremony . With this marriage he acquired three stepdaughters , Amanda Eckelberry ( born 1989 ) , Madeleine Rose ( born 1995 ) , and Olivia Juliette ( born 1998 ) as well as a stepson , actor Max Richard Carradine ( born 1998 ) .

In one of his final interviews , Carradine stated that at 71 , he was still " in excellent shape , " attributing it to a good diet and having a youthful circle of friends . " Everybody that I know is at least 10 or 20 years younger than I am . My wife Annie is 24 years younger than I am . My daughter asks why I don 't hang with women my age and I say ' Most of the women my age are a lot older than me ! ' "

= = Death = =

On June 3 , 2009 , at the age of 72 , David Carradine was found dead in his room at the Swissôtel Nai Lert Park Hotel on Wireless Road , near Sukhumvit Road , in central Bangkok , Thailand . He was in Bangkok to shoot his latest film , titled Stretch . A police official said that Carradine was found naked , hanging by a rope in the room 's closet , causing immediate speculation that his death was suicide . However , reported evidence suggested that his death was accidental , the result of autoerotic asphyxiation . Two autopsies were conducted , one involving the celebrity pathologist Pornthip Rojanasunan , and both concluded that the death was not a suicide . The cause of death became widely accepted as " accidental asphyxiation " .

Immediately following his death , two of Carradine 's former wives , Gail Jensen and Marina Anderson , stated publicly that his sexual interests included the practice of self @-@ bondage . Anderson , who had plans to publish a tell @-@ all book about her marriage to Carradine , said in an interview with Access Hollywood , " There was a dark side to David , there was a very intense side to David . People around him know that . " Previously , in her divorce filing , she had claimed that " it was the continuation of abhorrent and deviant sexual behavior which was potentially deadly . "

Photographs of Carradine at the death scene , as well as photographs of his autopsied body , were circulated in newspapers and on the Internet . His family , represented by his brothers , Keith and Robert , pleaded with the public and the press to let them mourn their loved one in peace .

Carradine 's funeral was held on June 13 , 2009 , in Los Angeles . His bamboo casket was buried at Forest Lawn Memorial Park . Among the many stars and family members who attended his private memorial were Tom Selleck , Lucy Liu , Frances Fisher , James Cromwell , Steve Railsback , and Chris Potter . His grave was marked on December 3 , 2009 . The monument proclaimed him to be " The Barefoot Legend " and included a quote from " Paint " , a song he wrote and performed as the theme to Sonny Boy , as an epitaph .

= = = Wrongful death suit and murder accusations = = =

On the first anniversary of his death , Carradine 's widow , Annie , announced that she had filed a lawsuit for wrongful death against the company that produced the film Carradine was working on at the time of his death . The lawsuit claimed that the company failed to provide assistance to the actor that had been agreed upon in his contract . " The suit alleges , the assistant left him behind for dinner on the night before the actor was found dead . The assistant and other film staffers apparently could not reach Carradine and decided to leave without him . Carradine called the assistant an hour later but was told the group was across town , and he would have to make his own

arrangements that evening . " Annie Carradine reached a settlement with MK2 Productions in August 2011 . She was reported to be receiving about US \$ 400 @, @ 000 from the company for Carradine 's death .

Also , in June 2010 , Marina Anderson , Carradine 's fourth ex @-@ wife , published David Carradine : The Eye of My Tornado , a memoir that discusses intimate details of their marriage . She also claimed publicly that she had conducted her own investigation of his death and concluded that he was murdered . Close friend Guthrie Thomas stated , upon hearing that suicide was the cause of Carradine 's death , " No one ties both of their hands behind their back previous to taking one 's own life . There had to be a second individual on the scene . " Thomas also is convinced that this tragedy appeared to be murder .

= = Filmography = =

= = = Video games = = =

Saints Row ( 2006 ) - William Sharp ( voice )

= = Awards and honors = =

1966 Theatre World Award , Royal Hunt of the Sun

1974 TP de Oro , Spain . Best Foreign Actor , Kung Fu

1997 Gold Star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame , Television

1998 : Honoree ? The 16th Annual Golden Boot Awards ( along with brothers Keith and Robert )

2005 : Action on Film International Film Festival Lifetime Achievement Award ? First annual recipient

2005 : Academy of Science Fiction , Fantasy & Horror Films , Saturn Award , Best Supporting Actor , Kill Bill : Volume 2

2008 Honoree ? Walk of Western Stars