

= Kirk Cameron =

Kirk Thomas Cameron (born October 12 , 1970) is an American actor . He is best known for his role as Mike Seaver on the ABC sitcom Growing Pains (1985 ? 92) , a role for which he was nominated for two Golden Globe Awards .

As a child actor , Cameron made several other television and film appearances through the 1980s and 1990s , including the films Like Father Like Son (1987) and Listen to Me (1989) . In the 2000s , he portrayed Cameron " Buck " Williams in the Left Behind film series and Caleb Holt in the drama film Fireproof (2008) . His most recent film , Saving Christmas (2014) , gained notoriety for reaching # 1 on the IMDb Bottom 100 List within one month of its theatrical release .

Cameron is also an active Evangelical Christian , partnering with Ray Comfort in the evangelical ministry The Way of the Master , and has co -@ founded The Firefly Foundation with his wife , actress Chelsea Noble .

= = Early life = =

Cameron was born in Panorama City , California , a suburb of Los Angeles . His parents are Barbara (née Bausmith) and Robert Cameron , a retired schoolteacher . He is the brother to Bridgette (b . 1967) , Melissa (b . 1970) , and actress Candace Cameron Bure , who is most notable for her role as D.J. Tanner on the popular television sitcom , Full House . He went to school on the set of Growing Pains , as opposed to public school . He graduated from high school at age 17 with high honors .

= = Acting career = =

= = = Early career = = =

Cameron began acting at age nine , and his first job was in an advertisement for a breakfast cereal . His first starring role was at age 13 , in the television series Two Marriages . At this age , he appeared in several television shows and films . He became famous in 1985 after being cast as Mike Seaver in the ABC television sitcom Growing Pains . In the series , Mike would eventually have a girlfriend named Kate MacDonald , played by Chelsea Noble , Cameron 's future wife . Cameron subsequently became a teen heartthrob in the late 1980s , while appearing on the covers of several teen magazines , including Tiger Beat , Teen Beat , 16 and others . At the time , he was making \$ 50 @, @ 000 a week . He was also in a 60 @-@ second Pepsi commercial during Super Bowl XXIV .

Cameron also guest starred in " Just One of the Guys " a 1988 episode of Full House in which he played the cousin of D.J. Tanner , a role played by Cameron 's sister , Candace .

Cameron went on to star in many films , including 1987 's Like Father Like Son (a body @-@ switch comedy with Dudley Moore) , which was a box office success . His next theatrical film , 1989 's Listen to Me , performed poorly at the box office . When Growing Pains ended in 1992 , Cameron went on to star in The WB sitcom Kirk which premiered in 1995 and ended two years later . In Kirk , Cameron played Kirk Hartman , a 24 @-@ year @-@ old who has to raise his siblings . Cameron and Noble also worked together on Kirk .

= = = 2000 ? 2010 = = =

Cameron has since mostly left mainstream film and television , though a decade after Growing Pains ended , he starred in a television reunion film , The Growing Pains Movie , in 2000 , and another one , Growing Pains : Return of the Seavers , in 2004 . Cameron reunited with the cast of Growing Pains for a CNN Larry King Live interview which aired on February 7 , 2006 , in conjunction with the Warner Bros. release of the complete first season of Growing Pains on DVD . Aside from

this , Cameron has often worked in Christian @-@ themed productions , among them the post @-@ Rapture films Left Behind : The Movie , Left Behind II : Tribulation Force , and Left Behind : World at War , in which he plays Cameron " Buck " Williams . Cameron 's wife Noble also starred in the film series , playing Hattie Durham . Cameron has worked with Cloud Ten Pictures , a company which produces Christian @-@ themed films , and has starred in several of their films , including The Miracle of the Cards .

He also appeared in the 2008 drama film , Fireproof , which was produced by Sherwood Pictures . The film was created on a budget of \$ 500 @,@ 000 , with Cameron as the lead actor , portraying Captain Caleb Holt . Though it was a low @-@ budget film , the film grossed \$ 33 @,@ 415 @,@ 129 and was a box office success . It was the highest grossing independent film of 2008 .

= = = 2010 ? present = = =

In 2012 , Cameron was the narrator and host of the documentary film Monumental : In Search of America 's National Treasure . On its opening day , March 27 , 2012 , Monumental grossed \$ 28 @,@ 340 . The film stayed in theaters until May 20 , 2012 , grossing a total of \$ 177 @,@ 729 .

In 2013 , Cameron announced he would be the host of the film Unstoppable slated to premiere September 24 , 2013 . A trailer for the film was blocked on Facebook , with Cameron speculating that it was due to the film 's religious content . Facebook has since removed the block , stating it was the result of a mistake by an automated system and a spam site previously registered at the same web address .

In 2014 , Cameron starred in the faith @-@ based comedy film Saving Christmas . The film was heavily panned by critics , winning the 2014 Golden Raspberry Award for Worst Picture and Worst Screenplay . Cameron also won the award for Worst Actor and Worst Screen Combo , which he won with " his ego " .

= = Evangelistic ministry = =

Cameron currently partners with fellow evangelist Ray Comfort , training Christians in evangelism . Together , they founded the ministry of The Way of the Master , which is best known for the television show of the same name that Cameron co @-@ hosts , and which won the National Religious Broadcasters ? Best Program Award for two consecutive years . It also formerly featured a radio show known as The Way of the Master Radio with talk show host Todd Friel . The radio show was later canceled , and replaced with Wretched Radio , hosted by Friel . Cameron , along with his wife , founded The Firefly Foundation , which runs Camp Firefly , a summer camp that gives terminally ill children and their families a free week 's vacation .

Cameron and Comfort participated in a televised debate with atheists Brian Sapien and Kelly O 'Conner of the Rational Response Squad , at Calvary Baptist Church , in Manhattan , on May 5 , 2007 . It was moderated by ABC 's Martin Bashir and parts of it were aired on Nightline . At issue was the existence of God , which Comfort stated he could prove scientifically , without relying on faith or the Bible . The audience was composed of both theists and atheists . Points of discussion included atheism and evolution . While Sapien contended during his arguments that Comfort violated the rules by talking about the Ten Commandments , Cameron later stated on the Way of the Master radio show that the rules of the debate did not say that the Bible could never be referenced , but rather that Comfort simply had to come up with one argument that didn 't reference the Bible or faith .

In November 2009 Cameron and others distributed free copies of an altered version of Charles Darwin 's On the Origin of Species on college campuses in the United States . The book consisted of Darwin 's text with chapters of the book removed , and with an added introduction by Ray Comfort reiterating common creationist assertions about Darwin and evolution . The book was criticized by scientists and Darwin biographers who criticized the omission of key chapters of the book , and who stated that its introduction contains misinformation about Darwin , and long @-@ refuted creationist arguments about the science of evolution , such as the linking of Nazi racial theories to Darwinist

ideas . Comfort later said that the four chapters were chosen at random to be omitted in order to make the book small enough to be affordable as a giveaway , with the absent chapters available for download , but that the missing chapters were included in the second edition , which had a smaller text size that made printing the entire book as a giveaway affordable . The second edition still lacks Darwin 's preface and glossary of terms . The National Center for Science Education arranged a campaign to distribute an analysis of the Comfort introduction and a banana bookmark at colleges across the U.S. , a reference to Comfort 's presentation of the banana as an argument for the existence of God .

On March 2 , 2012 Cameron stated on Piers Morgan Tonight that " homosexuality is unnatural , detrimental and ultimately destructive to foundations of civilization " . Cameron 's comments received criticism from GLAAD , and provoked a backlash from gay rights activists and members of the entertainment industry , including Roseanne Barr , Kristin Chenoweth , Craig Ferguson , Jesse Tyler Ferguson , Debra Messing , Martha Plimpton , as well as Growing Pains co @-@ stars Tracey Gold and Alan Thicke . Piers Morgan stated that Cameron was brave for expressing his opinion , " however antiquated his beliefs may be " . Rosie O 'Donnell invited him to discuss his comments on same @-@ sex marriage on The Rosie Show , but he declined and suggested a private dinner to discuss this topic personally .

On April 11 , 2012 Cameron was honored by Indiana Wesleyan University , and inducted into their Society of World Changers during a ceremony in which he spoke on IWU 's campus .

= = Personal life = =

Cameron and his wife , fellow Growing Pains star Chelsea Noble , were married on July 21 , 1991 . They now have six children , four of whom were adopted : Jack (born 1996) , Isabella (born 1997) , Anna (born 1998) , and Luke (born 2000) ; and two biological : Olivia (born 2001) and James (born 2003) .

= = = Conversion to Christianity = = =

Cameron was an atheist in his early teens . When he was 17 , during the height of his career on Growing Pains , he became a born @-@ again Christian . After converting to Christianity , he began to insist that storylines be edited to remove anything he thought too adult or inappropriate in Growing Pains . After the series was cancelled , Cameron did not maintain contact with his former co @-@ stars , and did not speak to Tracey Gold for eight years . Cameron has stated that this was not due to any animosity on his part toward any of his former cast @-@ members , but an outgrowth of his desire to start a new life away from the entertainment industry , and the life he had been in for the previous seven years . Prior to the premiere of The Growing Pains Movie in 2000 , for which the entire main cast reunited , Cameron described his regrets over how his relationship with his castmates changed after his religious conversion during production of the series , saying , " I definitely kind of made an about @-@ face , going toward another aspect of my life " , admits Cameron . " I shifted my focus from 100 % on the show , to 100 % on [my new life] , and left 0 % on the show ? and even the friendships that were a part of that show . If I could go back , I think I could make decisions that were less inadvertently hurtful to the cast ? like talking and explaining to them why I just wanted to have my family at my wedding . "

= = Filmography = =

= = = Television = = =

= = = Film = = =

= = = Video games = = =

1994 : The Horde ; Chauncey

= = Awards and nominations = =