

Distinguished Achievement Citation

Granville W. “Buzz” Pine

Class of 1963

With the presentation of Ohio Wesleyan’s Distinguished Achievement Citation, the Ohio Wesleyan University Alumni Association Board of Directors is honored and privileged to recognize Granville W. / Robert / “Buzz” Pine for his contributions to theatre, film, and television.

Coming to Ohio Wesleyan from Scarsdale, New York, where he was active in theater, Buzz entered OWU in the pre-medicine program and became a member of Beta Theta Pi. Following his graduation, he spent part of the summer acting in what he describes as a dreadful play that happened to be seen by playwright Robert Anderson, who was also a family friend. Anderson offered his help if Buzz wanted to follow his interest in acting, and a new career was born.

Since then, Buzz’s talents have been visible in films, theatre, television, and commercials. By Spring 1964, he was under contract to Universal and had guest starring roles on everything from *Wagon Train* to *Kraft Suspense Theatre*, a variety of situation comedies, and several films.

Following his Universal days, Buzz became a guest star on virtually every drama on television and appeared in films such as *The Graduate*. He also was busy in live theatre in widely disparate roles: Trigorin in Chekov’s *The Seagull* and singing as both Curly in *Oklahoma* and Marcelo in *La Bohème*. He is best known for a six-year run as Sgt. Joe Getraer on NBC’s *CHiPs*. Although the show ended in 1983, it has remained in continuous syndication and has played in more than 100 countries.

Buzz has worked steadily in every medium, guest starring in a multitude of television shows, including such HBO series as *Six Feet Under*, *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, and *Big Love*. He portrayed the president’s Chief of Staff in the film *Independence Day* and his most recent films include *Jobs* and *Decoding Annie Parker*.

An active union supporter, Buzz has served on the Screen Actors Guild (SAG) Board of Directors and is currently on both local and national Boards of AFTRA, the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists.

Buzz’s life also includes his wife, Gwynne Gilford, a psychotherapist and actress, and his children, Katherine and Chris. He is active in many charitable causes, including a golf tournament each year to raise money for the 11-99 Foundation, an organization that benefits the families of slain or wounded officers of the California Highway Patrol.

Today, for his work as actor and activist, Ohio Wesleyan honors and applauds Buzz Pine with the presentation of this Distinguished Achievement Citation.



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