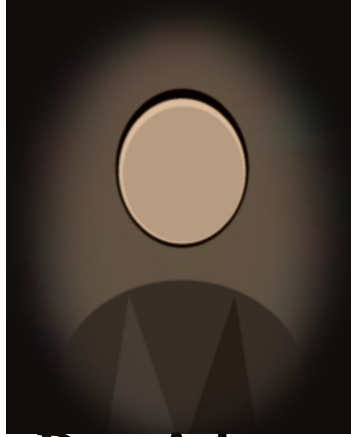




Don Adams

April 13, 1923 - September 25, 2005

Los Angeles, California

Don Adams - born Donald James Yarmy - American comedian and actor whose Maxwell Smart made Cold War spy craft look like a missed shoe-phone call, died in Los Angeles on September 25, 2005. He was eighty-two. Born April 13, 1923, in New York City, he served as a Marine in the Pacific, found nightclub and television sketch work, and in 1965 stepped into Get Smart as the earnest bungler whose catchphrases - "Sorry about that, Chief," "Missed it by that much" - outlived the satire that birthed them.

He later voiced Inspector Gadget, extending the same nasal resolve into another generation's Saturday mornings. Colleagues remembered a craftsman who treated timing as architecture: the pause before the cone of silence, the dignity inside the joke. Health struggles including lymphoma marked later years without erasing the Agent 86 grin from reruns.

Los Angeles was the long professional home after New York beginnings. He died of a lung infection, leaving laugh tracks that still cue on the shoe phone's ring.

Wartime Marine service and nightclub timing fused into a comic who could look brave while losing every gadget duel. Syndication kept Agent 86 in living rooms long after CONTROLled chaos left prime time.

He died in Los Angeles on September 25, 2005. Spy spoofs still borrow his deadpan courage.

Adams's gift was earnest absurdity - making incompetence lovable without making vigilance look optional. Notice Nearby keeps the death date so September 25 remembers the Marine-turned-comedian who taught

America to laugh at spy craft and still root for the agent.

Services

Died in Los Angeles, California, September 25, 2005. Actor and comedian; Maxwell Smart on Get Smart; voice of Inspector Gadget.

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