



## Fred Quimby

*July 31, 1886 - September 16, 1965*

Santa Monica, California

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Fred Quimby - Frederick Clinton Quimby - Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer animation producer and the executive name most tightly tied to the Tom and Jerry shorts that won seven Academy Awards, died in Santa Monica, California, on September 16, 1965. He was seventy-nine. Minneapolis roots and a long studio career had already turned him into the suited front office of cartoon slapstick: the producer credit audiences saw while William Hanna and Joseph Barbera built the cat-and-mouse engine that defined mid-century theatrical shorts.

Born July 31, 1886, in Minneapolis, Quimby moved through early film exhibition and production before landing at MGM, where he headed the cartoon unit through the golden run of theatrical animation. Under his producer banner, Tom and Jerry collected Oscars that cemented the series as prestige slapstick rather than disposable filler. Colleagues remembered a manager more than a draftsman - the person who kept the unit funded, scheduled, and visible to the Academy while artists and directors handled the drawings that made audiences flinch and laugh in the same frame.

By the mid-1950s the theatrical short was already losing the battle to television. Quimby's retirement and the later Hanna-Barbera television empire belong to that larger industry turn; the Oscar shelf remains the loudest receipt for his MGM years. Santa Monica was a quieter ending than Culver City sound stages.

He died in Santa Monica on September 16, 1965. The cat, the mouse, and the seven statues keep the public memory louder than any producer biography.

Quimby's imprint is managerial immortality: the name on the title card of cartoons that outlived the studio

system that paid for them. Notice Nearby keeps the death date so September 16 remembers the producer who made Tom and Jerry a Hollywood award machine.

## Services

Died in Santa Monica, California, September 16, 1965. MGM animation producer; Tom and Jerry shorts earned seven Academy Awards for Best Animated Short Film.

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