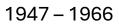


## Jesse Donald Knotts

July 24, 1924 – Morgantown WV --- February 24, 2006 – Los Angeles CA





Don Knotts and Loralee Czuchna | Ron Galella Collection via Getty Images

1974 - 1989

Karen 1954 - Thomas 1957 - 2020?



2002 - 2006

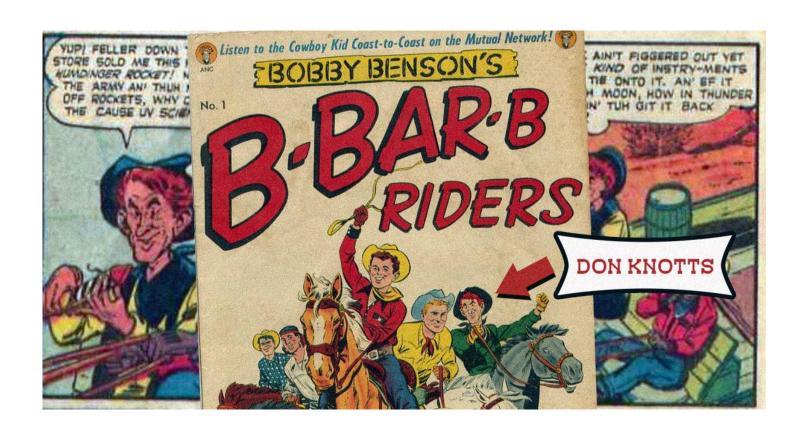






World War II Victory Medal, Philippine Liberation Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal (with four bronze service stars), Army Good Conduct Medal, Marksman Badge (with Carbine Bar) and Honorable Service Lapel Pin.







## From Soaperstar to Superstar

By Marnie Winston-Macauley

## DON KNOTTS

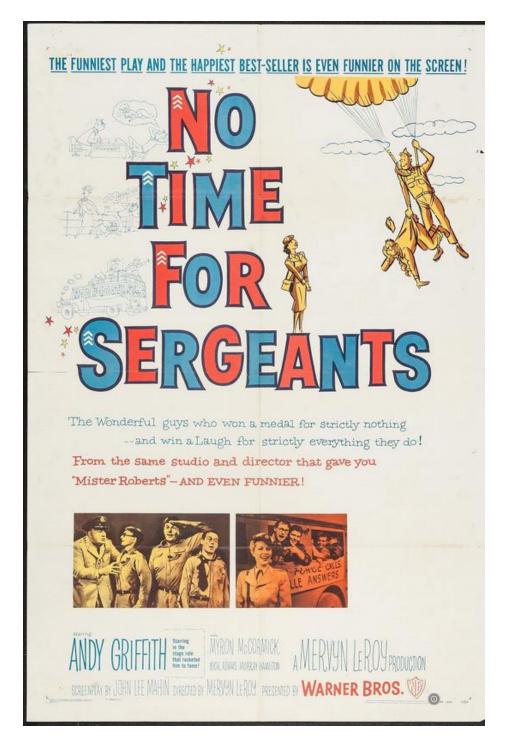
Long before there was The Andy Grifflth Show and dopey (but lovable) deputy Barney Fife, Knotts played Wilbur Peterson on SFT.

WHAT: WILBUR PETERSON, Search for Tomorrow

WHEN: 1953-1955 THE STORY: The wiry, funny man with the nerves of jelly may have gotten some practice with his semi-regular role as the mute brother of up-tono-good sister Rose (played by Lee Grant). Poor Wilbur became embroiled in a plot to destroy the show's heroine, which, thanks to a pang of conscience, his sister thwarted. Wilbur's silence, however was cured when a psychiatrist uncovered the root cause - his shock over trying to kill his foster father for attempting to attack Rose. Too bad The Andy Griffith Show's Barney Fife wasn't on the case! Recalling his soap experience, "about 174 years ago," he "ab-

"about 174 years ago," he "absolutely enjoyed" his twice-amonth stint on the show. He said, "These early exposures proved a definite training ground for the theater, movies and television." In fact, shortly after, he was tapped for No Time For Sargeants, which shot both Knotts and co-star Andy Griffith to fame, and began a winning twosome that garnered Knotts five Emmys for The Andy Griffith Show. \*\*











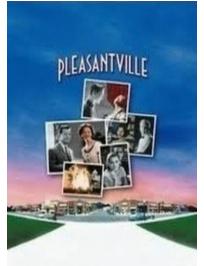






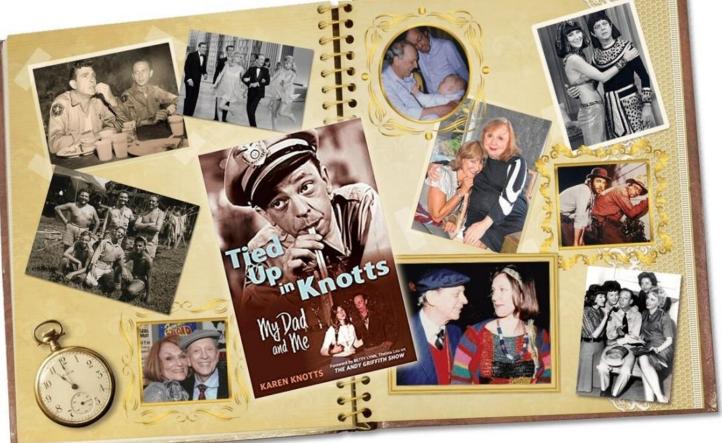






















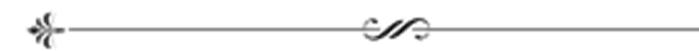




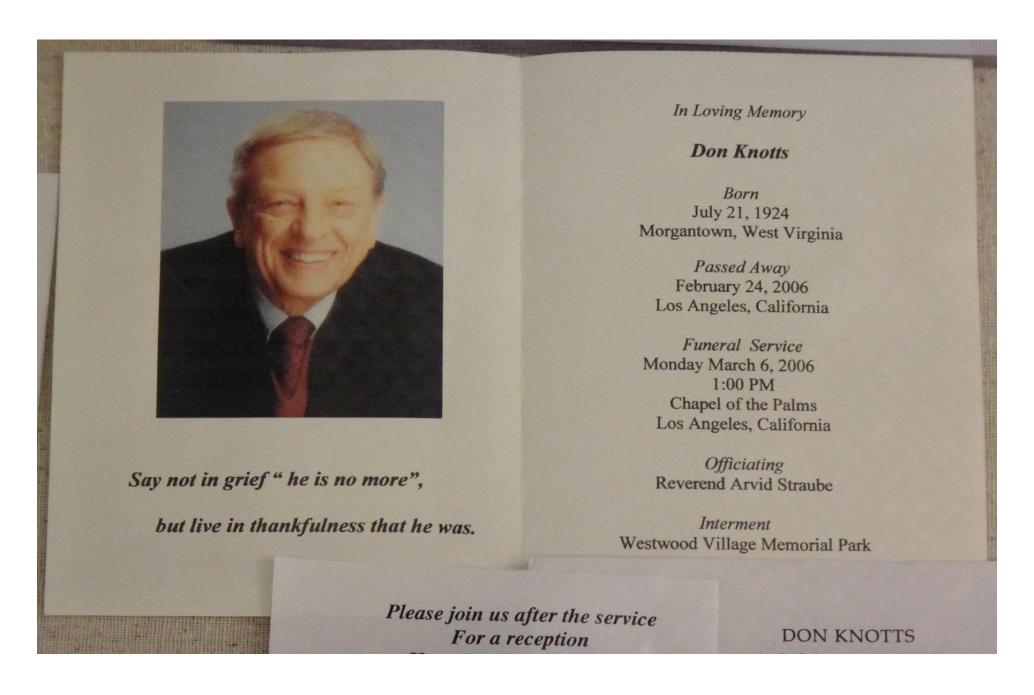


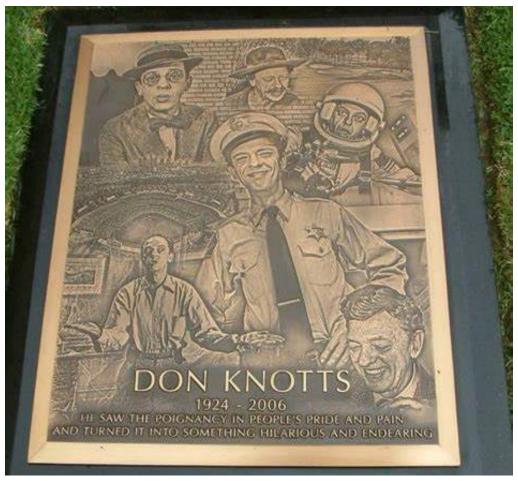












"He saw the poignancy in people's pride and pain and turned it into something hilarious and enduring."