

## *HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE*

### **BRUNO KIRBY**



Bruno Kirby was once described by film critic Leonard Maltin as "the quintessential New Yorker or cranky straight man". He typically played fast talking, belligerent and streetwise, yet strangely likeable, characters. This well-regarded actor was born Bruno Giovanni Quidaciolu on April 28, 1949, and raised in the Hells Kitchen section of Manhattan. In the late 1960's, he moved with his family to California. His career began to rev up in the early 1970's with a part in the TV pilot episode of "[M\\*A\\*S\\*H](#)" (1972) and roles in the films [The Young Graduates](#) (1971), [The Harrad Experiment](#) (1973), [Cinderella Liberty](#) (1973) and [Superdad](#) (1973). Most notable of all, however, was his featured part as young Clemenza, alongside [Robert De Niro's](#) young Vito Corleone in [The Godfather: Part II](#) (1974).

Bruno's close association with director [Rob Reiner](#) and actor [Billy Crystal](#) arguably led to the apex of his film career. In the early 1980s he chummed around with both Reiner and Crystal on a softball team, along with writer/actor/director [Christopher Guest](#). Bruno wound up playing Crystal's best buddy in two of Crystal's biggest box-office hits, [When Harry Met Sally...](#) (1989) and [City Slickers](#) (1991). He also appeared in Reiner's cult hit, [This Is Spinal Tap](#) (1984). Other important film roles for him included his humorless Lieutenant in [Good Morning, Vietnam](#) (1987), the refined salesman named "Mouse" in [Tin Men](#) (1987) and [Marlon Brando's](#) nephew in [The Freshman](#) (1990), a role that, more or less, amusingly parodied the "Godfather" association. Bruno was equally effective in taut, heavier stories and supported such up and coming stars as [Leonardo DiCaprio](#) in the dark and downbeat [The Basketball Diaries](#) (1995) and [Johnny Depp](#) in the mob family-styled drama [Donnie Brasco](#) (1997).

On stage in the 1980s and 1990s, Bruno appeared in "On the Money" (1983) and "Geniuses" (1985) and later replaced [Kevin Spacey](#) on [Broadway](#) in "Lost in Yonkers" in 1991. In 1997 he showcased off-[Broadway](#), playing writer [Alan Zweibel](#) in "Bunny Bunny", Zweibel's tribute to comedienne [Gilda Radner](#) and their close 14-year friendship.

On TV, he was a regular on "[It's Garry Shandling's Show.](#)" (1986), played dogged prosecutor [Vincent Bugliosi](#) in the miniseries [Helter Skelter](#) (2004) , which was a reenactment of the [Charles Manson](#) family horror, and appeared on the more popular shows of the day, such as "Homicide: Life on the Street" (1995) and "[Entourage](#)" (2006).

His father is actor [Bruce Kirby](#) and his brother John is a well-known acting coach. He was married for the first time to actress [Lynn Sellers](#) in 2004, at age 55. Bruno Kirby was diagnosed with leukemia shortly before his death on August 14, 2006, after having completed his part in the film [Played](#) (2006), starring [Gabriel Byrne](#).