

David L. Lander

David L. Lander was born in 1947 in Brooklyn, New York, the youngest son of two schoolteachers working in the New York City school system. At the age of ten, David decided he wanted to be an actor.

His formal acting training began at age 14 when he attended the High School of Performing Arts in New York City. He continued his studies at Carnegie Tech and NYU. After college, he moved to Hollywood, where his first showbiz job was writing for TV on a short-lived variety show called *ROMP!* Next, David found himself working at a telephone answering service where he was discovered by a radio producer who liked his sense of humor and his talent for voice imitations.

David was given an on-the-air audition with *The Credibility Gap*, a satirical radio show based on the news of the day. It was with *The Gap* that David and Michael McKean first performed Lenny and Squiggy before a live audience. One of the people in the audience was Penny Marshall, who had just sold a new show to ABC-TV titled *Laverne and Shirley*. She convinced Michael and David to perform at one of her parties, where her brother, Garry Marshall, saw their act and asked them to try the characters out on the show. Lenny and Squiggy appeared in more than two hundred episodes during the show's seven year run on ABC (1976-1983). *Laverne and Shirley* can still be seen in syndication worldwide.

David has appeared in feature films, including: *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*, *1941*, *Used Cars*, *The Man with One Red Shoe*, *A League of Their Own*, *Scary Movie* and *Say It Isn't So*. He is also very active doing voice-overs for radio, television and in animation, including the animated series *Oswald*, *Jungle Cubs* and *101 Dalmatians*.

David has guest-starred in more than thirty television shows, and has been a recurring character on David Lynch's *Twin Peaks*. He also starred in Lynch's only sitcom, *On The Air*. In addition, David has made appearances on television series such as *The Simpsons*, *The Nanny*, *Family Matters*, *Dream On*, *Saturday Night Live*, *Matlock*, *Head of the Class*, *Highway to Heaven*, *Father Dowling*, *Simon and Simon*, *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, *Married with Children*, and *L.A. Heat*. David has been featured on the hit TV soap opera, *The Bold and the Beautiful*, and on the hit TV shows *Sabrina The Teenage Witch*, *Mad About You* and *Arli\$\$*. He was also in *Family Reunion*, an ABC movie of the week in which he played all eleven members of a family; and he has appeared in the USA Network series, *Pacific Blue*.

Ever the baseball fan, David holds the position of Associate Scout for the Seattle Mariners. In the past, David has scouted for the Anaheim Angels, and in the 1980s, was a part-owner of the minor league club the Portland Beavers.

Diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (MS) in 1984, David currently maintains a very active schedule as a spokesperson and advocate for MS and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society (NMSS). David's autobiographical memoir *Fall Down Laughing: How Squiggy Caught Multiple Sclerosis and Didn't Tell Nobody* has appeared on the *Los Angeles Times* best seller list. In 2000, the NMSS honored David with an award for Ambassador of the Year.