



## John Davis Chandler

**January 28, 1935 – February 16, 2010, was an American actor.**

### Life

Chandler was born in Hinton, West Virginia.

### Career

In 1961, he portrayed the gangster Vincent Coll in *Mad Dog Coll*, and a kind of mad-dog teen killer in *The Young Savages* later the same year. He appeared in several of Sam Peckinpah's Western films, and on television between the 1960s and 1990s in *The Rifleman*; *Route 66*; *Straightaway*; *The Virginian*; *Adam-12*; *Gunsmoke*; *Walker, Texas Ranger*; *Quincy, M.E.*; *Columbo*; *Murder, She Wrote*; and *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*. In 1962, Chandler appeared as an escaped convict named Dog on *The Virginian* in the episode titled "The Brazen Bell".

Chandler had a famous exchange of lines with Clint Eastwood's character in *The Outlaw Josey Wales*. When asked if he is a bounty hunter, Chandler says, "A man's got to do somethin' for a livin' these days", to which Wales replies, "Dyin' ain't much of a livin', boy."

### Selected filmography

- 1961 *Mad Dog Coll* as Vincent "Mad Dog" Coll
- 1961 *The Young Savages* as Arthur Reardon
- 1962 *Ride the High Country* as Jimmy Hammond
- 1965 *Those Calloways* as Ollie Gibbons

- 1965 Major Dundee as Jimmy Lee Benteen
- 1965 Once a Thief as James Arthur Sargatanas, Walter's Henchman
- 1967 Return of the Gunfighter as "Sundance"
- 1968 The Hooked Generation as "Acid"
- 1969 The Good Guys and the Bad Guys as "Deuce"
- 1970 Barquero as Fair
- 1971 Adam-12 as Wally Barstow (Episode: A Child in Danger)
- 1971 Drag Racer as Dave
- 1971 Shoot Out as Skeeter
- 1971 Adam-12 as Robert "Robin" Saydo (Episode: The Radical)
- 1971 The D.A. as Robert "Robin" Saydo (Episode: The People vs. Saydo)
- 1972 Moon of the Wolf as Tom Gurmandy Jr.
- 1973 Adam-12 as Steve Deal (Episode: Killing Ground)
- 1973 Pat Garrett and Billy the Kid as Norris
- 1974 Columbo as Eddie Kane (Episode: Publish or Perish)
- 1974 The Take as Man With Braces
- 1974 The Ultimate Thrill as Evans
- 1975 Capone as Earl "Hymie" Weiss
- 1975 Walking Tall Part 2 as Ray Henry
- 1976 The Outlaw Josey Wales as First Bounty Hunter
- 1976 Mako: The Jaws of Death as Charlie
- 1976 Scorchy as Nicky
- 1976 Chesty Anderson, USN as Dr. Cheech
- 1976 Doc Hooker's Bunch as Roy

- 1977 Whiskey Mountain as Rudy
- 1977 The Shadow of Chikara as Rafe
- 1979 The Little Dragons as Carl
- 1982 The Sword and the Sorcerer Guard #1
- 1983 Triumphs of a Man Called Horse as Mason
- 1986 Airwolf as Gentry
- 1987 Adventures in Babysitting as Bleak
- 1988 Double Revenge as Charlie "Big Charlie"
- 1990 Crash and Burn as Bud
- 1991 Trancers II as Wino #1
- 1991 Only the Lonely as Duane Earl Tyrone
- 1993 Body of Evidence as Dr. Novaro
- 1994 Phantasm III: Lord of the Dead as Henry
- 1995 Carnosaur 2 as Zeb
- Character-actor John Davis Chandler was born on January 28, 1935, in Hinton, West Virginia. He was raised in Charleston, West Virginia. Tall and thin, with fair hair, piercing blue eyes, a pale complexion and a nasal, whiny voice, Chandler specialized in portraying mean, neurotic and dangerous villains. He made an impressive film debut in his sole starring part as the titular sniveling, psychotic, homicidal weasel gangster in Mad Dog Coll (1961). He acted in a trio of Westerns for director Sam Peckinpah, and is especially memorable (and frightening) as the creepy Jimmy Hammond in the magnificent Ride the High Country (1962). He was excellent as vicious punk Arthur Reardon in The Young Savages (1961). He made an effectively loathsome appearance as a vile bushwhacker in the supremely spooky horror-western The Shadow of Chikara (1977) and had a nice bit as a bounty hunter in Clint Eastwood's terrific The Outlaw Josey Wales (1976). He even played a good guy--of sorts--in Peckinpah's Major Dundee (1965).

Chandler popped up in three entertaining drive-in exploitation features for director William Grefé: at his wacky best as the crazed, doped-up Acid in The Hooked Generation (1968), a foul shark poacher in the fun Jaws (1975) copy Mako: The Jaws of Death (1976) and an evil pot farmer in Whiskey Mountain (1977). Among the many TV shows John did guest spots on are Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (1993), Walker, Texas Ranger (1993), Chicago Hope (1994) ER (1994), Simon & Simon (1981), Hunter (1984), Murder, She Wrote (1984), Hill Street Blues (1981), T.J. Hooker (1982), Fantasy Island (1977), The Incredible Hulk (1977), Police Woman (1974), Gunsmoke (1955), Adam-12 (1968), The Fugitive (1963), Combat! (1962), The Rifleman (1958), Route 66 (1960) and The Virginian (1962). In real life he was an avid practitioner of yoga.

Parents - Hinton Physician, Dr Arthur Cecil Chandler Sr. and wife Laura Davis Smith

Sibling - Arthur Cecil Chandler Jr.

Married to Martha Rosina Matthews who was from Oklahoma (October 8, 1970 - August 26, 1990) her passing}

- Attended Charleston High School, where he was vice president of the student council and played piano with the symphony. Chandler graduated from Charleston High School in 1952.
- Briefly enrolled at Princeton as a pre-med student. He eventually dropped out of college and served in the US Army, where he was stationed in Germany.
- An avid yoga practitioner, John was known as a mild-mannered gentle soul.
- Wife, Martha R. Matthews, was born 9/9/30 in Oklahoma.
- Studied acting at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York.
- Was a proficient tennis player in his grade school days.
- He died at age 75 in Toluca Lake, California from cancer.

**Hinton Native**  
**John Davis Chandler**  
*We Salute You!*

