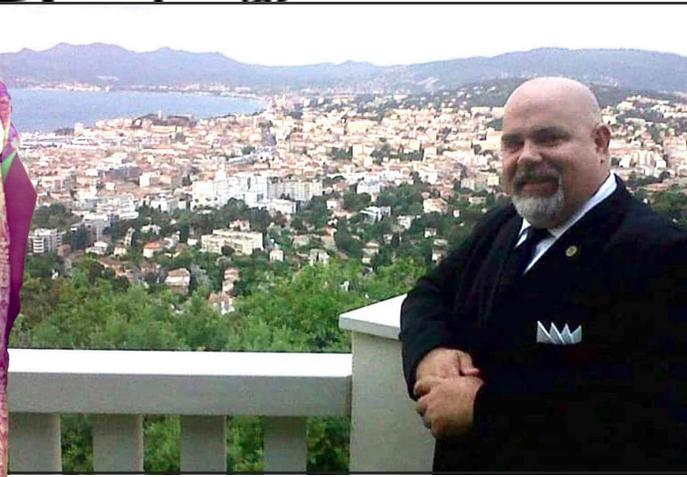
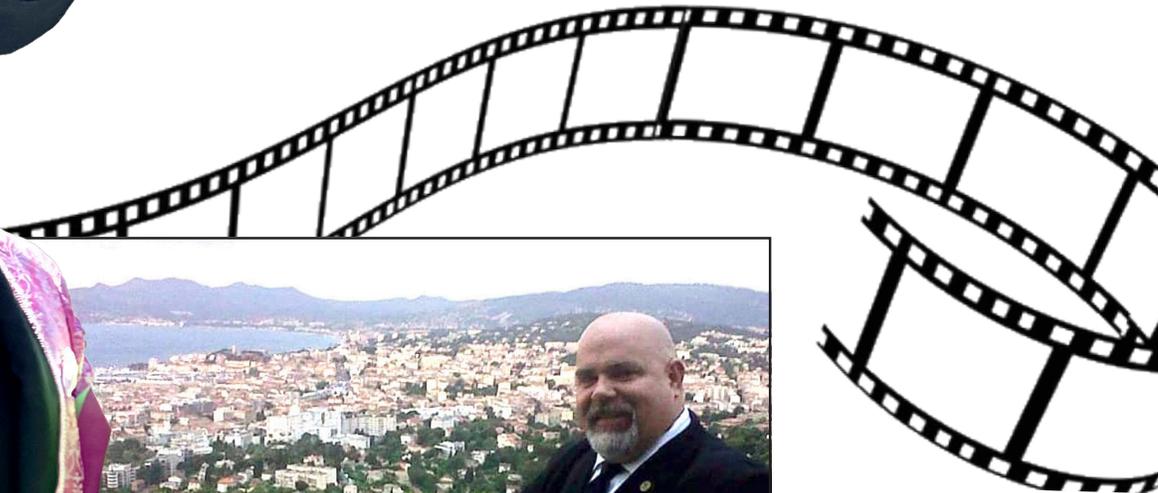


“Living a Fascinating Life”



Wayne Douglas Morgan in Cannes, France, from the balcony of the villa where he stayed during the Cannes Film Festival. He attended annually from 2002 until the COVID-19 shutdown.

Wayne Douglas Morgan Makes Movies, Music and Dreams Happen

By Dean M. Shapiro, Senior Editor

With two film projects “in development,” seven “upcoming” and more than 70 screen credits to his name, Wayne Douglas Morgan has built a multifaceted career spanning more than two decades.

As an actor, director, producer, consultant, advisor, casting assistant, personnel manager and bodyguard, Wayne has worked across nearly every corner of the motion picture industry. He has collaborated with major names in Hollywood

while establishing New Orleans as his professional home base after more than a decade of sojourning throughout the United States and overseas.

Today, after decades immersed in film and entertainment, and as director of the nonprofit organization Louisiana Produces — which promotes film and television production in Louisiana — Wayne is focused on mentoring others who aspire to careers in the industry.

“I live a fascinating life,” Wayne said. “Anyone who wants to create something for the screen can reach out to me. I believe in people. If you want to create, you can do it.”

COVER STORY

Among his favorite projects are “Dead Dawn” and “1959,” where he served as both producer and actor, as well as acting roles in “The Dukes of Hazzard,” “Blonde Ambition,” and “Big Shark.”

Over the years he has worked alongside Burt Reynolds, Willie Nelson, Lynda Carter, Dakota Fanning, Kurt Russell, Lindsay Lohan, John Schneider, Jessica Simpson and Quinton Aaron, among others. For several high-profile figures — including Lohan, Paris Hilton and Snoop Dogg — he also served as a personal bodyguard.



Wayne Douglas Morgan in a scene from *The Dukes of Hazzard* (2006). | PHOTO COURTESY OF WAYNE DOUGLAS MORGAN / WARNER BROS.

Wayne later partnered with Quinton Aaron and producer John Russell to form Nomadic Leo Entertainment, a production company dedicated to developing and producing original content.



Wayne Douglas Morgan and fellow military advisors between takes with the cast of *Boots* (Sony Television / Netflix). |

PHOTO COURTESY OF WAYNE DOUGLAS MORGAN.

He also founded the H.U.R.D. Casting Network, now containing tens of thousands of actors and industry professionals. H.U.R.D. stands for Helping yoU Reach Dreams.

“I came up with that name while working on the Louisiana-based film ‘Dreamer,’ where the phrase ‘follow the herd’ became common on set,” Wayne recalled.

Beyond production work, Wayne serves on the SAG-AFTRA Louisiana-Mississippi Local board, chairs the New Orleans Actor Awards Party, and sits on the Film Louisiana Executive Board.

Born in Eugene, Oregon, Wayne enlisted in the Navy following high school in 1990. He later applied to and was accepted into the U.S. Naval Academy.

As a proud alumnus of the Naval Academy’s Class of 1998, he went on to serve in various capacities within federal agencies including the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and the Departments of the Navy and the Army. He also earned a Bachelor of Science degree in law enforcement with a minor in forensic science from Western Oregon University.

In 2002, he relocated to the New Orleans area to work for the Department of the Navy at Avondale and he has remained in the region ever since, balancing federal service with work in film. He retired from U.S. Government employment in 2024 as a Federal Investigator.



Wayne Douglas Morgan serving as bodyguard for Paris Hilton during the Cannes Film Festival. Also pictured: Mani Nordine, Managing Director and President of AAC (American Artists Company). |

PHOTO COURTESY OF WAYNE DOUGLAS MORGAN.



Wayne Douglas Morgan with co-founders Ashley P. Davis and Cornelius Barnett of Pathways to Independence & Empowerment. |

PHOTO COURTESY OF WAYNE DOUGLAS MORGAN.



Wayne Douglas Morgan and recording artist Ado Soul at a music industry event celebrating the release of Ado Soul and The Tribe’s newest record. |

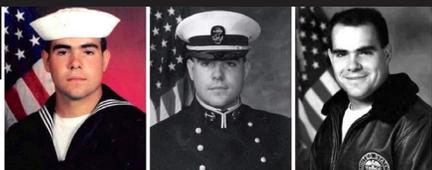
PHOTO COURTESY OF WAYNE DOUGLAS MORGAN.



Wayne Douglas Morgan at *The Last Rodeo* red carpet premiere and post-screening at AMC DINE-IN Clearfork 8 on May 12, 2025, in Fort Worth, Texas. |

PHOTO COURTESY OF WAYNE DOUGLAS MORGAN.

COVER STORY



Wayne Douglas Morgan during his service in the United States Navy. | PHOTO COURTESY OF WAYNE DOUGLAS MORGAN.



Wayne Douglas Morgan with members of the SAG-AFTRA New Orleans Local Board at the Screen Actors Guild Awards. | PHOTO COURTESY OF WAYNE DOUGLAS MORGAN.



Wayne Douglas Morgan during an on-camera interview discussing the film 1959. | PHOTO COURTESY OF WAYNE DOUGLAS MORGAN.



Wayne Douglas Morgan with actor Dwayne Johnson in Cannes, France, during the Cannes Film Festival. | PHOTO COURTESY OF WAYNE DOUGLAS MORGAN.

Now focused fulltime on film, Wayne is also developing Pathways to Independence and Empowerment alongside co-founders Ashley Davis and Cornelius Barnett. The Louisiana-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit supports youth aging out of foster care and other at-risk youth through mentorship, housing support, life-skills training and career development opportunities.

He additionally serves as secretary for the Naval Academy Alumni Association for the state of Louisiana. “I help plan alumni Army and Navy events held here in New Orleans,” he said.

Wayne’s military background naturally led to consulting roles in film, particularly on projects requiring accuracy in military protocol and weapons handling.

Most recently, he served as military technical advisor on the 2025 military dramedy, “Boots,” produced by Sony TV for Netflix. The series peaked at No. 2 worldwide in October 2025 with 9.4 million views in its second week and reached No. 1 in multiple regions. However, despite strong viewership and critical acclaim, the show was later canceled following controversy.

“It was incredible to see it climb the global charts,” Wayne said. “Working closely with the production team and studio executives was a tremendous experience.”

Wayne’s organizational instincts also led him to establish statewide “meet-ups” structured in chapters across Louisiana’s major cities, including New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Shreveport, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Monroe and Alexandria. These gatherings fostered collaboration among actors, writers, producers and crew members, helping streamline production networking throughout the state.

One current project he is developing is a three-part series titled “The Walk-Ons,” centered on a football team and the relationships between fathers and their sons.



Wayne Douglas Morgan with his granddaughter, Estella, and grandson, Jett. | PHOTO COURTESY OF WAYNE DOUGLAS MORGAN.



Wayne Douglas Morgan enjoying time with family between film projects. | PHOTO COURTESY OF WAYNE DOUGLAS MORGAN.

In addition to film, Wayne manages recording artist Ado Soul and his band, The

Tribe. The group has expanded its regional presence, including filming a music video in Texas. “He’s a powerful talent with a strong message,” Wayne said. “I’m proud to support and help guide his career.”

He also hopes to one day write a book about his experiences in entertainment and public service.

A devoted father of four — Taylor, Michaela, Kennedy and Cruz — and grandfather to Estella and Jett, Wayne considers family his greatest achievement. Throughout the years, he has remained committed to youth mentorship, volunteering as a football and baseball coach and serving as a Cub Scout leader, emphasizing character, accountability and service above self.

Reflecting on his journey, Wayne said, “When I sit back, I almost have to pinch myself. I came from Eugene, Oregon, and now I’m making movies and building opportunities for others. When you believe in people and encourage them, you become their biggest fan.”



Wayne Douglas Morgan can be contacted at wdmorgan@yahoo.com