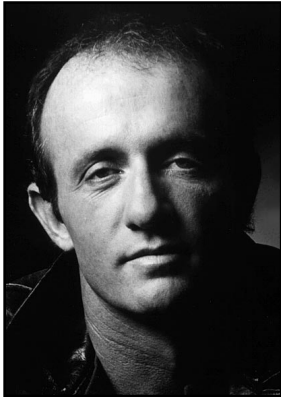


WABASH VALLEY

P R O F I L E S

A series of tributes to hometown people and events that have shaped our history.

Jonathan Banks



If the fellow sitting across the aisle at a Terre Haute restaurant looks like FBI Organized Crime Bureau Chief Frank McPike of the popular CBS television series *Wiseguy*, chances are that it is!

Terre Haute became Jonathan Ray Banks' second home in the late 1960s. Born in Washington D.C. on Jan. 31, 1947, Banks chose to attend Indiana University—his mother's alma mater—rather than the University of Maryland after graduating from Northwood High School in Silver Springs, Maryland, in 1968. His mother Elena (Adams) Banks, a native Hoosier and 1945 IU graduate, joined the Indiana State University faculty in 1968. A well-liked associate professor of

business education and recipient of various honors including the 1976 Kappa Delta Teacher of the Year Award, Elena retired in 1988. She still resides here, remaining active in emeriti functions.

A member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity at Indiana University, Jonathan embarked on a professional theater career in 1970, directing a troupe of American actors in Australia and New Zealand for two years. By the end of the decade, he had landed roles in several television movies, including *The Macahans*, *The Girl in the Empty Grave*, *The Cheap Detective* and *The Ordeal of Patty Hearst*. In 1979 he appeared in the television mini-series *Ike* and, two years later, was cast as Dutch Schulz in *The Gangster Chronicles*.

By 1986 he was making about five motion pictures each year, including *Timerider*, *48 Hours*, *Beverly Hills Cop*, *Nadia* (he played Gheorge Comaneci) and *Gremlins*. He also made guest appearances on television series like *Lou Grant*, *Simon & Simon* and *Hill Street Blues*. *Wiseguy*, launched Sept. 16, 1987, had a thriving life, ending Dec. 8, 1990. Banks was nominated for an Emmy in 1989-90. A still-active *Wiseguy* Fan Club was founded and, in 1996, ABC made *Wiseguy* into a full-length movie starring principals from the television series.

Banks is occupied as an actor, producer and director. In 1997-98 he had a lead role in the NBC sitcom *Fired Up*. His recent film credits include *There Goes the Neighborhood*, *Freejack*, *Boiling Point*, *Body Shot*, *Last Man Standing*, *Dark Breed* and *Flipper*. He appeared in three 1999 releases: *Let the Devil Wear Black*, *Foolish* and *Trash*.

Jonathan now resides in Malibu, Cal., with his wife Geni and five-year-old twins, son Claudio Jon Henry "Hank" and daughter Rebecca Elena. Daughter Joanna from a prior marriage, now 30, is married to Rob Morgan and also lives in Malibu. Jonathan frequently visits his mother here. When his work schedule is hectic, Elena does not hesitate to trek to the West Coast for holidays.

TERRE HAUTE

(812) 238-6000



NATIONAL BANK

Always Close to Home