



Ernie Hudson is one of the most sought after actors of our time, with an impressive list of credits and awards, and a body of work that is unparalleled with this diverse range and span of time. He has appeared in over 200 television series and movies, which include every genre. After over 40 years on screen, Hudson has become, not only instantly recognizable, but a true Hollywood icon. Some of his most notable appearances include, but are not limited to, "Ghostbusters 1 & 2," the "Crow," "Congo," "The Hand That Rocks the Cradle," "Miss Congeniality 1 & 2," and the HBO groundbreaking series "OZ." But there's much more to Ernie than just being a successful actor.

Born in Benton Harbor Michigan, he lost his mother to tuberculosis when he was just three months old. He never knew his father. Born into extreme poverty, he was raised by his maternal grandmother, who taught him five important lessons. Life lessons which he shares with audiences. He credits these five lessons for carried him from the housing projects to Yale to Hollywood and Broadway. After high school, he joined the military. Upon returning home he married and move to Detroit and enrolled at Wayne State University, where he discovered his love for the theater. His writing earned him a full scholarship to the prestigious Yale School of Drama. While attending Yale his troubled marriage failed. To his surprise, he ended up with full custody of his two small sons. With his sons in tow, he headed for Hollywood to seek his fame and fortune. This was the most challenging and rewarding period of his life. He shares his experiences with fathers and tells them, "accepting responsibility for your children is the most important thing you can do, not just for your children, but for yours..."

## Ernie Hudson

### Speech Topics

- Personal Growth
- Overcoming Adversity
- Motivation
- Inspiration
- Family
- Celebrity