



## Bill Paxton

**Birth Name:** William Archibald Paxton

**Birthday:** Tuesday, May 17, 1955

**Sign:** [Taurus](#) [1]

**Birth Place:** Fort Worth, Texas, USA

**Height:** 5' 11"

Bill Paxton was born William Archibald Paxton on May 17, 1955 in Fort Worth, Texas. He moved to Los Angeles, California at age 18, where he found work in the film industry as a set dresser for Roger Corman's New World Pictures. He made his film debut in the Corman film *Crazy Mama* (1975), directed by Jonathan Demme. Moving to New York, Paxton studied acting under Stella Adler at New York University. After landing a small role in *Stripes* (1981), he found steady work in low-budget films and television. He also directed, wrote and produced award-winning short films including *Fish Heads* (1980), which aired on "Saturday Night Live" (1975). His first appearance in a James Cameron film was a small role in *The Terminator* (1984), followed by his very memorable performance as Private Hudson in *Aliens* (1986) and as the nomadic vampire Severen in Kathryn Bigelow's *Near Dark* (1987). Bill also appeared in John Hughes' *Weird Science* (1985), as Wyatt Donnelly's sadistic older brother Chet. Although he continued to work steadily in film and television, his big break did not come until his lead role in the critically acclaimed film-noir *One False Move* (1992). This quickly led to strong supporting roles as Wyatt Earp's naive younger brother Morgan in *Tombstone* (1993) and as Fred Haise, one of the three astronauts, in *Apollo 13* (1995), as well as in James Cameron's offering *True Lies* (1994).



**Source URL:** <http://shakefire.com/talent/bill-paxton#comment-0>

**Links**

[1] <http://shakefire.com/signs/taurus>