

## D2950 DAWN OF THE DEAD (USA, 1979)

(Other titles: *Zombie*; *Zombies*)

**Credits:** director/writer, George A. Romero.

**Cast:** David Emge, Ken Foree, Scott Reiniger, Gaylen Ross.

**Summary:** Horror film set in contemporary western Pennsylvania. Sequel to Romero's *Night of the living dead*. An unexplained astronomical event causes the unburied dead to reanimate and roam around searching for living people to eat. The film opens at a panicked local TV station trying to stay on the air despite the zombies surrounding it. City police storm a low income housing project which has been overrun by the living-dead. Rednecks outside of town organize zombie-hunting parties. Survivors from town congregate at a suburban shopping mall which they cleanse of zombies and barricade. The mall offers some respite from the living-dead, but when a marauding motorcycle gang breaks in, only a few survivors are able to escape by helicopter to an uncertain fate. Described as a metaphorical Vietnam film by Robert Cumbow in Vietnam war films due to its use of helicopters and commando weaponry and its portrayal of a zombie enemy that is shot down without remorse but nevertheless wins.

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