

M4690 MISSING BRENDAN (USA, 2003)

Credits: director, Eugene Brady ; writers, Christopher D. White, Josh Lieber, Audrey Arkins.

Cast: Ed Asner, Illeana Douglas, Robin Thomas, Richard Cox, Adam Brody

Summary: Melodrama set in the contemporary U.S. and Vietnam. Three generations of the Calden family, including grandson Patrick (Brody), his father Bob (Thomas) who is also a Vietnam veteran, and grandfather George (Asner), embark on a very difficult expedition across the world to Vietnam to fulfill a longtime wish of finding George's other son, Brendan, a jet pilot who has been MIA since the end of the war. Accompanied on their incredible journey by archeologist Julie Conroy (Douglas), the family encounters much more than they ever expected. Excavating the site of Brendan's plane crash, they find identifiable pieces of the jet but are set back when grandfather George takes ill (he has been concealing his terminal condition). Further, Vietnamese soldiers arrive and inexplicably order them off the site. Meanwhile, Patrick has developed a relationship with local girl Tuyet (Luong) which infuriates his father Bob who has unresolved issues from his time in Vietnam. But after a confrontation with Tuyet's father Mr. Pham (Aleong), Bob returns and apologizes. Recognizing Bob's contrition, the Vietnamese general (Dye) returns the expedition's tools. However, they do not find Brendan's remains until Mr. Pham comes forward and leads them into the jungle to the spot where he buried the pilot decades before. Brendan's dog tags are then recovered and his fate is finally known

Howard, Brendan. "Missing Brendan" Video store magazine 26/39 (Sep 19-25, 2004), p. 28.

"The O.C.'s Adam Brody stars in 'Missing Brendan' - his first dramatic film role - out February 15th" PR Newswire (Feb 8, 2005)