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Associated Press wirephoto

FUNERAL FOR ERNIE KOVACS—Actress Edie Adams, widow of the comedian, arrives at Beverly Hills Presbyterian Community Church with her late husband's father, Andrew, for funeral services.

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## Kovacs Estate Worth Only \$16,184

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The estate of the late comedian Ernie Kovacs, once estimated at \$2 million, is worth only \$16,184, says his widow, actress Edie Adams.

Miss Adams told a Superior Court yesterday that debts and taxes reduced the estate's value. Many of her late husband's holdings were mortgaged and some \$300,000 in unpaid taxes was due when the comedian was killed in an auto accident nearly five years ago, Miss Adams testified.

She said an undetermined amount of film and television residuals are due, but that more than \$136,000 is owing in federal and state taxes.

## Film Stars Are Pallbearers

# A Simple Service for Ernie Kovacs

By United Press International

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif.

Comedian Ernie Kovacs was paid final tribute today in a funeral service only six blocks from where he met violent death early Saturday morning when his car crashed into a utility pole.

His widow, actress Edie

Adams, surrounded by friends Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Kirk Douglas and Jack Lemmon, wept during services at the Beverly Hills Community Presbyterian Church.

Less than a half-mile away along Santa Monica Boulevard, the accident scene still was marked by broken glass.

The simple church rites were attended by many of Hollywood's great names. Burial followed at private interment services at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in the Hollywood Hills.

Among the mourners were Groucho Marx, Donna Reed, Jayne Mansfield, Jack Benny, Herbert Marshall, Sam Goldwyn, Greer Garson, Polly Bergen, Janet Leigh and Kim Kovak.

Also present was director Billy Wilder, whose party Mr. Kovacs had left minutes before the crash on the rain-slick street. Milton Berle, for whose new adopted son the party was held, was one of the early arrivals at the church.

Some 500 persons filled the church, while another 500 crowded behind ropes along Santa Monica Boulevard. Police maintained order among the quiet crowd, some of whom carried cameras.

### His Father Attends

The service was conducted by Dr. Samuel Allison, pastor of the church. Pallbearers were Mr. Lemmon, Mr. Sinatra, Mr. Martin, restaurateur Joe Mikalos, Mr. Wilder and director Mervyn LeRoy.

Mr. Kovacs' father, Andrew, arrived with Miss Adams' mother, who had to be helped into the church. The mahogany coffin was covered with a blanket of white gardenias and a single red rose.

Dr. Allison said, "I'm not going to eulogize Ernie Kovacs. I don't think he needs the words of a minister—his life speaks more eloquently.

"What a wonderful contribution he made to your lives. . . . "His warmth flowed into the homes of all America."

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