



Stacy Brady: Celebrating Great Leadership and Great Parenting.

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Marilyn's Page



“Open for business”... finally! That ubiquitous sign comes as a huge relief to everyone.

For us at Peacock North it represents a “go” for scheduling the next **Spring Luncheon** at Sardi's Restaurant in New York City, on **Sunday, April 24th, 2022**. Mark your calendars.

Details will follow as we get closer but make note that this is the date which fills the bill. For those who travel, start making your plans. It should be a rousing event after this pandemic has stolen two luncheons from us as well as so many other events and people from all of our lives.



The world is beginning to open up as if from a deep sleep, and sporting events are returning with various levels of crowd capacity. One of those events will be the 2021 Olympics from Japan which will be watched by the entire world. I want to give our NBC Olympics team a shout out and wish them all good luck and safe travels. After a one-year delay of the games, this must be the most logistically complicated event to pull off given the difficulty Covid-19 still presents around the world. Post-Olympics I am hoping for an opportunity to sit down with David Mazza, Senior Vice President & CTO of NBC Sports Group and NBC Olympics, to get an insider's take on the trials and tribulations these Games presented across the board due to a world still reeling from Covid.



Here's hoping everyone is getting vaccinated and is staying safe.

Now, to the good stuff - the rest of the magazine...



*What's Now!***Lester Holt Receives Edward R. Murrow Award**

NBC News anchor Lester Holt received the Edward R. Murrow Lifetime Achievement Award from Washington State University on March 30th, an honor given to those who demonstrate a commitment to excellence. In his acceptance speech, the longtime journalist offered his advice to others in the field, emphasizing the value of truth-telling.

"I think it's become clearer that fairness is overrated," he said. "Before you run with or tweet that headline, let me explain a bit. The idea that we should always give two sides equal weight and merit does not reflect the world we find ourselves in. That the sun sets in the West is a fact. Any contrary view does not deserve our time or attention."

Holt, 62, cited "recent events," as evidence for his statement. "I know recent events assure you won't have to look far to find more current and relevant examples," he continued. "Decisions to not give unsupported arguments equal time are not a dereliction of journalistic responsibility or some kind of agenda. In fact, it's just the opposite. Providing an open platform for misinformation, for anyone to come say whatever they want, especially when issues of public health and safety are at stake, can be quite dangerous."



"Our duty is to be fair to the truth. Holding those in power accountable is at the core of our function and responsibility," he said. "We need to hear our leader's views, their policies and reasoning. It's really important, but we have to stand ready to push back and call-out falsehoods." Holt went on to clarify that "fact checking is not a vendetta or attack."

"We must help our audiences understand what our role is in a healthy democracy. Because if we're not asking the right questions, who is?" he said. "Imagine, if you would, what the pandemic would look like without the media holding leaders to account for vaccines rollouts or countering harmful misinformation or why some communities are being left behind." "Regard for truth must regain a foothold in our society so that we can weather the storms of tomorrow's calamities. Tomorrow's pandemics," Holt added.

On Wednesday, Holt's colleagues at NBC congratulated him for his award, with Today's Al Roker tweeting, "So well deserved. An honor to work with @LesterHoltNBC."

On Today, anchor Savannah Guthrie added that the team is "really proud" of Holt, joking that "now there will be no living with Lester in the halls at NBC News!"

By Ally Mauch © People.com, March 31, 2021

*Peacock Profiles***Stacy Brady
Interviewed by Marilyn Altman**

Since this issue will arrive on the heels of Mother's Day, I thought it timely to have a conversation with one of the most successful female executives at NBC, Stacy Brady. She represents so much of what has gone right for women and their contributions to this company during the past 50 years. Stacy started at NBC in 1978 as a secretary in News Film, which became EJ, and has risen to Executive Vice President and General Manager of News Field & Production Operations overseeing more than 1,000 people. Her managerial reputation, accolades and leadership in technology have earned her the greatest respect from both her staff and those for whom she works. Tom Brokaw once referred to her admiringly as a Straw Boss, effective without the lead foot or iron fist but with a tremendous work ethic. What is most impressive is that with her demanding hours and travels she managed to also be a nurturing mother. Very tricky for women going up the ladder - she broke lots of glass along the way. I caught up with her on the Friday before Mother's Day.

MA: Stacy, you are one of the most successful women behind the scenes at NBC. Your job has made extraordinary demands on your time in the office, but also included extensive travel at a moment's notice due to the nature of both domestic and international breaking news. Given such a schedule, was making the decision as to when to have children or whether to have them at all difficult for you?

**Jerusalem 2018**

SB: No. I have always been a person who wanted children. I was one of four children in what I would call a very loving family so it just seemed like a natural thing for me to do.

Did you think that you could do your job successfully and still be a good parent?

I did. My mother worked much of the time while we were growing up, and my father worked. So, I was pretty much used to Mom working. I thought she did a great job and felt I could follow in her footsteps.

Did you and your husband, Charlie, discuss how to handle the difficulties with hours and travel?

My husband and I are together for many reasons. One of them is that his job was sort of like my job. I was running around covering breaking news and other stories and he was running around as an ATF agent trying to keep us all safe. We both traveled and we had conversations about this. We were incredibly fortunate to have his mother with us when we first had young children. Charlie's mom was a saving grace to us. She took care of our kids knowing that both of our jobs were very demanding. I'm not sure if there was a specific plan but when we knew we were going to have a child we had to make arrangements.

So, family played a big role in giving you support so that you were not necessarily crazed about travel or schedules?

Yes. And then once we thought maybe this was too much for his mom, we started getting live-in nannies. Our nannies came from all parts of the world and there were a lot of visa issues and some turnover. Each time we had to find somebody else it was very traumatic. But I have to say we trusted each person implicitly with our children. Each brought something special to our kids. One loved to read and it was just at the right time for them. Another was incredibly creative and artistic, and another was very into sports and she'd be out playing baseball with them. I feel like we were very fortunate.

How did your kids feel about their mom leaving and traveling, sometimes to dangerous places; sometimes for a week, maybe two weeks at a time on longer remotes like Olympics and political conventions?

My mom used to say to me that whenever she would take me to occasions like my first day of school every other kid was crying except me. My kids did the same thing. I would be waiting for them to be crying about Mommy leaving but they were fine. In retrospect I think it's just a matter of feeling secure. They felt safe. And it was okay; I was coming back. I wasn't leaving forever, and they knew that. I think they were born into this; this is what Mommy does. So it was never an issue, it was always part of life

You have two sons and also a supportive husband. How do you think having a working mom shaped your sons' lives as they grew into men who are now in their 20s.?

Personally, I think it's fantastic. I think that they have a perception of women as being strong people who can work and earn a living and be independent. We talk about it. They see the mutual respect in my relationship with Charlie. There's no expectation in our world that I have to do it all and he does nothing or vice versa. We really feel this is a 50/50 relationship and my boys see that.

When you had your first son was it hard to come back from maternity leave? Was it hard to start up again?

No. I knew I wanted children, but I also wanted to work. I wanted the best of each world and I believed that I could do it. I would never take anything away from my children and make it all about work, so they knew I was giving them 1000%, whether I was there 100% of the time or not.

Do you think that you could have had kids without a supportive husband and also family involvement? Where do you see that role?

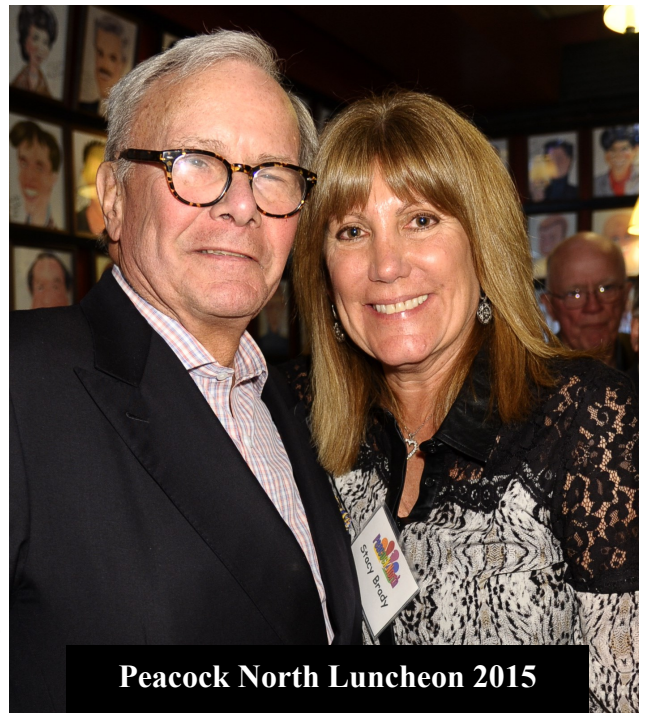
Hard to tell because it didn't happen that way for me. I am a believer that you make things work, whatever the situation. When I met my husband, I wanted children and a career. I'm blessed because I have a husband who is incredibly supportive, always has been. He really respects what I do and has no issue whatsoever with travel. My kids are great, and I just think they are better for it.

As more women started to enter the workforce, NBC began to consider providing flexibility to parents such as job sharing (I don't know of any man that has ever job-shared or contemplated it.) It was groundbreaking and innovative. Did you ever think about job sharing? Do you think you could have gone as far as you did?

It was not something that was offered to me or that I might have been really aware of. Certainly at the time, I think that my career definitely would have been hampered if I job-shared. I thought that if I wasn't in the game 100% all the time somebody else would get the jobs I wanted and I wanted to prove myself, so I probably would never have accepted it.

By the time you had children, you were an older mom. Do you think you could you have done this in your early or mid-20s and gotten to your professional level or do you think that women have to first put down their career roots and then think about children?

That's true. My career was pretty much established when I had children. I got married later in life and had children later in life. I have actually spoken to younger women who have asked me [those questions] and I say, "I think you should wait a little bit and establish your career. Because if you do have children, you can always come back to work,



Peacock North Luncheon 2015

but if you have a family too early on you may have missed growth opportunities in your career which might not present themselves again.” That’s the downside of being a female and trying to work at the same time. That part is tough. It was easier for me because I was established. I did the majority of my riskier travel, like disasters and conflicts, before I had children. I take that back. I think I travelled during the Iraqi War. But being on the road - and I was on the road pretty much week after week - that would have been tough if I had my children at that time. Then I would have had to sacrifice that travel.

So, you think that timing is everything?

Windsor Castle 2018



Timing is everything. I think, if you are a young woman who knows the kind of road you want to travel, you really have to get on that road and stick with it and then plan it out to a degree. Ten years or so is not such a long time. I don't think it's so bad having children later in life. The bad part is maybe I won't be around for my great-grandchildren. But I do think there's something good to be said about it, too. You are more mature and wiser, and you may think about things in a different way than you would when you're in your early 20s and sort of winging it.

Now, after more than a year of pandemic, working mothers and fathers in many businesses are reluctant to go back to the workplace. Is NBC reevaluating ways to allow employees to continue to work remotely, or some sort of hybrid arrangement to allow that to become an accepted way to do business in our on-air, breaking news kind of world?

I think there is definitely a lot of conversation around this. Right now, there is going to be what is being defined as a “soft return” to work in June. This soft return will continue over the summer and then I think the expectation is that by September people will come back. Now, who comes back and how many people come back are undetermined. I think that the summer will allow everybody a little bit of insight into what's working and what's not working, but there is definitely a decision that there will be more flexibility in our work schedules. The desire is for people to come back. There's a feeling that we are a creative company. Therefore we have to collaborate. Certainly, shows need collaboration. Maybe some technical roles stay home. Totally undetermined at this point.

What about you? You've spent time both in the office and at home. Has being home been good for you?

I spent more time in than out. I could do both. I'm fortunate. I have an office in my house that I use during breaking news at midnight. So, I'm here. But I think that there's something to be said about family time. I grew up in a family that had dinner together at 6:00 every night. I think that time has gone away. Long hours at work meant that I wasn't back home until 8:00 or 8:30 at night. I never had dinner with my family, except on weekends. I think that's a shame. It would be great if we could have a little bit of a mix. I'm not saying every single day of the week, but that there is some flexibility to be had. I think that there are some things that we learned from this pandemic that are great and we shouldn't toss them away. I have found that I am as productive at home as I am in the office.

Do you think that this pandemic has affected the way that young women are looking at family and career? And in what ways? How would you advise them?

Honestly, I've never had a conversation with a young woman in this post-pandemic world about these issues. I'll speak for myself. If I were in the position that I was years ago when I first had my children, and we were in a pandemic, I would feel blessed that I was able to work from home with my children for that amount of time, I would balance it. I will tell you there are people in my office who have become new fathers and they feel blessed. They would never have had that time with those children. I think whether you're a male or a female, the pandemic has allowed you to work from home and watch your child

grow up. Somebody said to me "I actually saw my baby walk for the first time." He probably would have never seen that. It can go both ways. That's what I want. I hope that as a society we would look at the pluses, not just the minuses, learn from them and live our lives that way, you know?

Any regrets? And would you do it all again the same way?

In my own career?

Like you said, you didn't have dinner with your kids except on weekends. Any regrets in terms of what would you do differently, if at all?

The only thing is that, perhaps, I might not have said "yes" to everything. Maybe I would have stayed home from a trip when there was something going on familywise that should have taken priority. I don't feel like I missed a lot but there's probably something in there that I could have said "no" to, but I didn't - truly out of fear that I would be passed by if I said no.

How are the boys? I think they're 22 and 24?

They're so good. I feel like they're so balanced. I think that in parenting, first of all, you have to be consistent and you have to be on the same page together as parents. And just love them, show the love, make them feel safe and secure. It doesn't matter if you travel. You can work and do that. By the way, I never felt guilty about this - ever. You just have to figure it out. No one should ever sacrifice anything in their life out of fear because you can do it. You just have to figure it out. So, when you ask if I have any regrets, I really don't.

You think there will ever be men who will want to job share?

No. [LOL!]

A belated Happy Mothers Day to all the wonderful and talented mothers I worked with at NBC. You know who you are. You all set an example and paved the way. Thank you.



Jesse, Stacy, Charlie and Jake.

*What's Now!***Eric Eisenstein and Tom Hogan Retire****About Eric Eisenstein (Above, Left)**

Self-described as “Husband, Dad, Grandfather, Director, NBC Cameraman”, Eric just finished a 41-year career with NBC, having worked on *SNL*, *Today*, and many sports shows including several World Series, Super Bowls and NBA Championships. His freelance directing career has paralleled the work at NBC. His clients include the ESPN family of Networks, Comcast SportsNet, Fox Sports Net, Rocket Entertainment, among many others. His Major Directing Projects include Indoor Volleyball at the 2004 Summer Olympics, Philadelphia 76ers Basketball, Philadelphia Phillies baseball and MLS Soccer.

About Tom Hogan (Above, Right)**Kellen Hogan on Facebook on February 26th, 2021 writes:**

After 40 years at NBC, my father, Tom Hogan, is hanging up his camera! Today on *Today* is his final show. Tommy is always singing and dancing behind the camera, and sometimes in front, all while showing how it's done. His decades-long career includes 3 Emmy awards, numerous nominations and countless credits on every program broadcasted from 30 Rockefeller Center and around the world.

Friends chime in:

John LiBretto

Thank you Kellen! Your dad is a treasure. I was lucky enough to work on sports and news with Tom. No matter what a football announcer was talking about, all I had to say was “Take 3,” and I knew that the shot would be whatever that announcer was talking about. Welcome to retirement...now, let's do our own damn show!

John D. Marelli

An incredible career! I was there for a lot of it. Your dad's one of the greatest. Just ask any of the directors he's worked with. Please send him my best wishes!! Congratulations Tommy!!

Mike Noseworthy

Congratulations to both Tom and Eric. Truly two of the best!
All Best Wishes for a Happy and Healthy Retirement.

What's Now!

Gil Muro Retires



Mike Clark

Please join in a toast to Gilbert Muro, who retires from NBC today after 35 years. Gil started in Tampa at WTVT, went to ABC in New York and finally settled at NBC for the rest of his career in broadcasting. A technical director, Gil has served on the *NBC Nightly News*, *Today*, and even a couple of *Saturday Night Live* broadcasts. He is an Emmy winner. On September 11, 2001, Gil was working *Today* when the attacks began and stayed with the show switching between 30 Rock and remote locations.

Happy Retirement, Gil!

Julie Vaughn Borges

Gil, end of the news tonight. Congratulations on your retirement. One of my best memories was a

personal tour of the studio with Tonya, back when we were in college. Watching you work your magic, coordinating every detail. You are amazing! Big hug!

Thomas Cobian

What a Ride! Now done with that. Now on to what excites you more than your love of the craft that took you around the world. Still remember you starting out at Channel 13. I was the luckiest kid to be behind the scenes from mobile hook ups to sitting watching news broadcasts, wrestling matches with my big brother "the Kansas City Kid" I could go on and on with all you have shared with me and our family but the best part about it all was you! Love You Big Brother !!

Antonio Richardson

You are a Pro's Pro and we were all the better for it when we were working together.

Donna McCarthy

Congratulations Gil. We had a long haul and it wasn't easy for us to get to the top. We paid our dues, now you can reap the rewards of your accomplishments. Take a quiet step and enjoy.

Peter Caesar

Will always remember your wisdom and kindness...

Don't be a stranger. My home and heart is always open to you and yours.

Big Kiss.

Todd Urbin

You knew you were going to have a special day when you heard that Gil was going to switch the show!

Congratulations on your retirement!



What's Now!

Steve Lucas Retires



Stephen Lucas retired on March 17th, 2019.

He wrote on Facebook:

After 40 years in the business and 23 of them at NBC in 30 Rock, I have decided to take off the headset and retire from NBC News.

It has been a pleasure working with Lester Holt over the years especially these last 5 years at Nightly News.

I will also miss all of the talented people whom I've had the privilege to work with throughout the years.

Continue to do great work as I watch from a distance and cheer you on!

All the best!!



Ray Nassr

We miss you Steve!!

Janie Cartier

Always a pleasure to work with you no matter where or what position. Blessings to you , my friend.

Rudolph Lucas

Way to go my brother. Go out in style and enjoy your retirement. Love you. Your big brother.

Carl Martin

Steve and Lester -Two of the greatest guys in the business of network TV.

Joe Michaels

The best of the best!

Susann Thomas

The Best of the Best, my brother. SO SO PROUD! THANK YOU! "Meme forever!"

Joel Spector

It was always great to work with you, especially when you would tell the back deck "I got this!" Keep up those good vibes!

Kathy Barbee

It has been my pleasure to work with you. I miss you already my friend. Congratulations on a job well done. Happy trails!

What's Now!

NBC's High-Tech Kentucky Derby



Typically one of the largest annual productions on the live-sports calendar, NBC's Kentucky Derby broadcast last year had a significantly reduced footprint and was produced remotely due to the pandemic. This year, in a sign that live sports production is returning to some normalcy, the Peacock's production and announce teams were back onsite at Churchill Downs, and they had plenty of new tech toys to play with.

"The big difference is, last year, we produced the show out of our Sports Production Operations Center in Stamford, CT," says Rob Hyland, coordinating producer, horse-racing coverage, NBC Sports. "This year, we were very happy to be back in Louisville."

Last year's belated Kentucky Derby broadcast was produced out of NEP EN1 mobile units parked at the loading dock in Stamford (and used NBC Sports' NEWBERT remote flypack to bring back feeds), and nearly all on-air talent was located in Stamford. This year, Hyland's production team and the crew of more than 200 were back in Louisville, operating out NEP ND1 A, B, C, and D mobile production units, and with more than a dozen announcers on hand at Churchill Downs. "Twenty years ago, I was part of NBC's first Kentucky Derby," recounts Hyland. "It was about a two-hour show, with a small team of reporters, a couple of feature-story elements, and that was the lead-up to the big race."



NBC scattered more than 50 cameras in and around Churchill Downs this year, including 12 wireless cameras, six slo-mos, two robos, a blimp, a Bat Cam two-point aerial system, two live RF JockeyCams, and a live drone. According to Hyland, the concept of using a drone first came up following the 2019 Derby, and NBC explored using one on the 2020 race before the pandemic nixed those plans. This year, with the Derby back in full swing, NBC opted to introduce the drone into its production. Provided by Beverly Hills Aerials, the drone system has been outfitted with a Canon CJ20ex5B 4K broadcast zoom lens. Hyland's team conducted rehearsals with the supplier on Wednesday and Thursday to establish a comfort level on its use within the broadcast.



Prior to air day, Hyland stated that "We can utilize [the drone] and take you places that we haven't before with our traditional cameras." Specifically, wrapping around the twin spires, going between the twin spires to the paddock, from the paddock back to the front side, around the track, back to the chute where the mile chute is — where it's hard to get cameras, a very narrow area." NBC has worked closely with Churchill Downs to ensure that the drone does not interfere with the races and does not pose a danger to patrons at the track."

"We were worried about that with Bat Cam years ago, but horses have never noticed it in a race," says Hyland. "Churchill Downs has been great in working with us, and the vendor has been great. Our number-one priority is safety." Also new for this year's production is a pair of RF systems provided by UK-based JockeyCam and mounted aboard jockey helmets. NBC has used JockeyCam for the Breeders Cup World Championships, but this marks the first time the system will provide in-race action at the Derby.

"We think it will be a really cool replay for both the turf races and dirt races," says Hyland. "[It's] an effort to bring the viewers closer to the action and give them a sense of the speed and the decision-making that goes on in each race and how fast it is."

NBC Sports Group's coverage of the 147th Kentucky Derby began Friday on NBCSN with coverage of the Kentucky Oaks and continued with Saturday's Derby coverage at noon ET on NBCSN, followed by NBC's broadcast beginning at 2:30 p.m.

By Jason Dachman, Chief Editor, © SVG News, April 30, 2021



*What's Now!***NBC, VCC and MSNBC's "Vaccinating America" Town Hall**

On May 6th, NBC News received a call from the White House saying that they agreed to do an MSNBC town hall featuring an interview with President Biden and all the top US medical officials to help encourage Covid-19 vaccination.

Rani Kahle, Marc Greenstein and their team would have just 5 days to deploy to North Virginia Community College in Arlington (Jill Biden's school), gather an audience and rehearse "Vaccinating America." Due to social distancing rules, the audience would need to be both in person and virtual, with audience monitors fed by The Video Call Center (NBC Alumni Bonnie Optekman, Tom Wolzien and Larry Thaler) which also services the Kelly Clarkson, Maury Povich and Steve Wilkos shows for NBC.

The show aired on May 12th featuring Dr. Anthony Fauci, Surgeon General Vivek H. Murthy, and Secretary of Health and Human Services Xavier Becerra answering important audience questions about vaccination.

- By Joel Spector, Peacock North Editor

*Broadcast History***The Development of Broadcast Advertising**

Had he been president of NBC instead of the United States, Calvin Coolidge's major contribution to Bartlett's Familiar Quotations might have been slightly altered to read, 'The business of television is business,' and he would have been right. It has been that way ever since Bulova paid nine dollars in time charges for the first commercial on WNBT back in 1941. The system really goes back to the fall of 1922 when AT&T, which already owned several stations, made a startling announcement that its flagship station, WEAf in New York, would operate in effect like a phone booth. AT&T would provide no programming. Instead, customers could come in, and for a fee based on the amount of time they wanted to purchase, air any message of their choosing. AT&T was proposing commercial broadcasting.

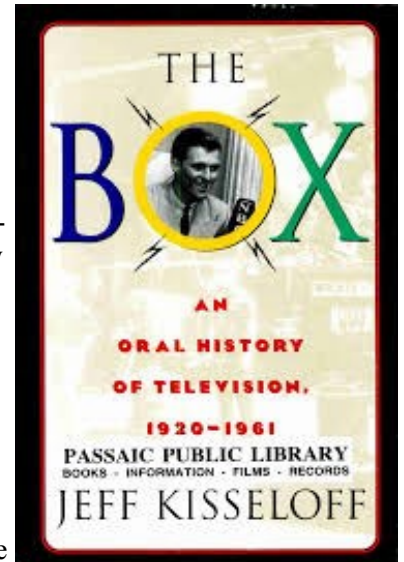
Many responsible people were scandalized by the idea that the airwaves could be used for commercial gain. A bill was introduced in Congress to ban advertising on radio. Herbert Hoover, then head of the Federal Radio Commission, declared, "The reader of a newspaper has an option whether he will read or not, but if a speech by the president is to be used as the meat in a sandwich of two patent medicine advertisements, there will be no radio left."

Nevertheless, AT&T went ahead. WEAf's first commercial program was a sales pitch by a Mr. Blackwell for an apartment complex in Queens, New York. The ten-minute pitch cost the company fifty dollars and drew a moderate response. What really blew the lid off the kettle was a ten-minute talk a few months later, delivered by the glamorous Marion Davies. Her lecture, "How I Make Up for the Movies," was done for Mineralava soap. She closed by inviting listeners to write in for a free autographed picture. Over 100,000 requests poured into the station. Commercial radio was here to stay. Soon, the music of the Ipana Troubadours and the A&P Gypsies dominated the airwaves in shows produced and directed by the advertising agencies, not the networks. The Lucky Strike Orchestra was the brainchild of George Washington Hill, the legendary president of the American Tobacco Company, and a seminal figure in the history of commercial broadcasting. Hill, along with Procter & Gamble, was one of the first big-time advertisers to use radio.

He knew instinctively how to program for a mass market. He believed the upbeat music played by the Lucky Strike Orchestra could help America dance its way out of the Depression. Hill also broke through the early restrictions on low-class advertising with his classic line for Cremo cigars, 'There's no spit in Cremo!' on the CBS network. Hill was a proponent of loud, obnoxious, repetitive advertising. His "Lucky Strike has gone to war!" ads, aired during the early stages of World War II, were one of the great success stories in advertising history. Hill depended mostly on his own instinct for his ad campaigns, but with the help of pioneering public relations man Edward Bernays, a nephew of Sigmund Freud, he was also an early proponent of employing psychoanalytic theory to develop commercial and marketing strategies.

When the Federal Communications Commission approved commercial broadcasting for television in 1941, network executives figured the best way to hook big advertisers was to offer them the same deal they got in radio. There were exceptions. William Paley, tired of CBS radio losing its stars to NBC, decided the best way CBS could get a competitive edge was to control at least some of its own programming. By owning its own shows, the network could tie the shows and their stars into long-term contracts. He set up a program department, headed by Hubbell Robinson and Harry Ommerle. Robinson hired three of the most gifted writers in the business, Cy Howard, Harry Ackerman, and Goodman Ace, to create programs for CBS radio. Their efforts had their impact on CBS television, too. For example, it was Ackerman who found Lucille Ball performing at the Stork Club and signed her with CBS. For the most part, however, the old radio system ruled TV through the mid-fifties, which also meant a continuation of program practices so successful in radio: programming was aimed toward the lowest common denominator; sponsors combed through scripts to delete what they considered to be offending words or characterizations; controversy, either in dealing with serious social issues or simply in using black actors, was frowned upon. The latter policy was conducted particularly with an eye toward appeasing Southern stations. Such overzealous behavior was rooted in the enormous profits generated by television exposure. The Hazel Bishop cosmetics company was a \$50,000 annual business in 1950. After two years of television advertising, the company's annual sales topped \$4.5 million.

From *The Box: An Oral History of Television, 1920-1961* by © Jeff Kisseloff.



*What's Now!***Covid Brings Changes to SNL Table Read**

In the pre-Covid years the SNL Wednesday table read took place in the show's 17-floor conference room. About 50 writers, cast members and department heads, along with Lorne Michaels and the guest host, filled the room. Snacks were everywhere and the atmosphere was quite like an event. Here's a photo from 2015:



These days the session takes place in Studio 8H itself, with the socially-distanced attendees seated on the studio floor and in the audience bleachers. Each person has a microphone which is fed to the control room and the studio p.a. system, and also distributed to other locations in 30 Rock for those who can't be in the studio.



*Peacock History***“Saturday Night Review” Debuts in 1950**

“Saturday Night Review” Debut Announcement in © The New York Times, February 25, 1950



The National Broadcasting Company television network will offer the first showing of its two and one-half hour “Saturday Night Review” tonight from 8 to 10:30 P.M. The show will be divided into two parts, with the first hour originating in the Studebaker Theatre in Chicago and the remaining ninety minutes coming from the International Theatre in New York.

The Chicago portion has been entitled “The Jack Carter Show.” Besides the comedian, who will be master of ceremonies, the Midwestern program will include [stage and screen actor] Franchot Tone, [comedienne] Cass Daley, [popular vocalist] Dorothy Clair, [actor and comedian] Benny Baker and [actor and singer] Donald Richards.

For this portion of the telecast, Ted Mills is producer-director; Ed Bimond, staging producer; Joseph Gallicchio, musical Director; Edith Barstow, choreographer; Shirley Seidel is in charge of costumes; Frank Schnepfer is technical director, and Nat Brooks is the writer.

The New York offering, “Your Show of Shows,” will have Burgess Meredith as guest master of ceremonies and will feature Gertrude Lawrence, Robert Merrill and Marguerite Piazza as well as Sid Caesar and Imogene Coca, who will be regulars on the show.

Max Liebman is the producer at the New York end; Hal Keith is director; Charles Sanford, musical director; James Starbuck, choreographer; Paul DuPont is in charge of costumes; Frederic Fox is the set designer, and Mel Tolken and Lucille Kallen are the writers.



*Grey Matters by Bill Freeda***Update on 2020 GE Pension Funding For US Employees**

By now you should have received the GE Pension Plan Funding notice ending December 31, 2020. This is a government-required notice based on assumptions established by federal law which are less conservative than those reported in the GE Annual Report.

I believe the better valuation of these obligations is the market-based values in the GE Annual Report. With help from a retired GE executive who is knowledgeable in these matters, I am going to try and simplify the information.

At year-end 2020, the GE Pension Trust's assets were \$58.8 billion, its obligations were \$68.9 billion, a shortfall of \$10.1 billion. The Trust had a positive return on its investments of approximately \$8.9 billion dollars. After benefit payments of \$3.9 billion, an asset transfer of \$1.7 billion to purchase group annuity contracts, and GE and employee contributions of \$2.9 billion, the Trust assets gained \$6.2 billion during 2020. The GE Pension Trust was 85% funded as of the end of last year, up from 81% the prior year.

What I like to continually emphasize is that the issue of under-funding and over-funding is comprised of assumptions regarding investment returns and current interest rates. I prefer to focus on the Trust's assets, its return on investments, and the long-term nature of its payouts. As I understand it, the obligations are calculated decades into the future, based on life expectancies of more than 296,000 plan participants – including retirees, vested former employees, and current employees.

For perspective on the long-term aspect of this, consider that there are some vested active GE employees who today are in their thirties. Their payouts won't start until they retire in their sixties and begin annual payments that will last several decades. So with obligations and payments that extend for many years to the later part of this century, the current funding status seems manageable, and should not be of great concern for those who are now drawing benefits.



*Tributes to Silent Microphones***Janet Jamieson**

Janet Garfield Jamieson, age 71, passed away peacefully at home in Manhattan, on April 2, 2021, 5 1/2 years after being diagnosed with ovarian cancer. A lifelong New Yorker, Janet was the beloved daughter of the late Ruth and Sid Garfield. She is survived by her husband of 41 years, Bob, her cherished son Andrew (Emily), her sister Judy Farinet, and her niece.

Janet worked at NBC News for over a decade, then devoted her time to volunteer work and freelance writing. She was a passionate theater-goer from the time her parents took her to her first show at five years old. It wasn't unusual for Janet to see her favorites countless times. She treasured annual family vacations in Italy and loved making every family celebration a special event: birthday, anniversary and graduation parties, holidays, and especially, planning her son's engagement party, pre-pandemic.

She never let her illness or treatment affect the way she lived her life. She lit up a room with her personality, sense of humor and ability to tell a great story (inherited from her father), and was a loving and wise parent, and compassionate, supportive and loyal friend to many (inherited from her mother). Her family is heartbroken, and she will be missed and loved every day for the rest of their lives.

Per Janet's request, there will be no memorial service. For those who wish to make a contribution in Janet's memory, they may be made online to <https://giving.mskcc.org/ways-to-give>. or checks may be sent to

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
Ovarian Cancer Research
Office of Development
PO Box 27106
New York, NY 10087.

© 2021 Legacy.com

Condolences may be sent to the family at
215 East 68th Street
New York, NY 10065

Standing: ML Flynn and Nancy Lewittes.

Seated: Judy and Janet.

October 2019.



Tributes to Silent Microphones

Frank Kennedy



Three-time Emmy® Award-winner Francis Joseph Kennedy, Jr., “Frank”, passed away on April 3rd, 2021 after a long illness. Frank was born on August 11th, 1936 to Francis Joseph Kennedy, Sr., and Margaret Connelly Kennedy in the Bronx, New York. The oldest of 7 children, Frank attended St. Simon Stock School & High School, and then attended Iona College. After serving as a U.S. Army Sargeant, his first occupations included working for General Motors Overseas Operations, Senior House Manager of Radio City Music Hall, and then on to the NBC television network where he had an illustrious 40-year career. Frank began as a cameraman and then became a highly skilled Senior Video Tape Editor for both the NBC Sports and News divisions, including *Today* & *NBC Nightly News*.

Frank is survived by his wife of 53 years, Mary Lou Barnes Kennedy, and his daughters Lorraine Kennedy Williams and Tara Kennedy. He is also survived by his siblings Patricia Cunneen, Gail McInerney (John) & Gerard Kennedy (Eileen) and Kevin Kennedy. He is preceded in death by his brothers Tom Kennedy, William Kennedy and brother-in-law Tom Cunneen. He is loved

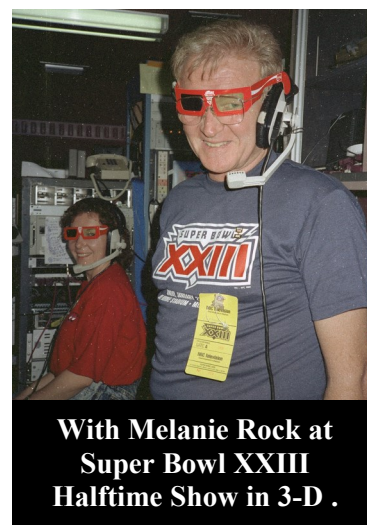
by his sisters-in-law Nancy Quinn (Brian) and Patricia Barnes, and brothers-in-law Jeff Barnes (Susan) and Chris Barnes (Jacqui). He also leaves behind the loves of his life, his 8 grandchildren, Ian, Sean & Chelsea Williams, and Alexis, Madison, Taylor, Peyton and Elliot Fishman, along with numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and grand nieces and nephews.

Frank continued his passion for videography and photography until his final days, and his grandchildren were his favorite subjects. Frank was a voracious reader, and had a passion for the arts, especially music, movies, television and theater. His favorite hobby was creating remarkable home movies of his grandchildren set to the most beautiful and fitting music. Frank’s favorite location was at the Jersey Shore’s “Irish Riviera” in Spring Lake, N.J. The beach and ocean air would bring him much tranquility and happiness each summer with his family.

Frank had a wicked sense of humor, deep insight & instinct, strength combined with just the right amount of sensitivity, a beautiful smile, a great laugh, and an incredible work ethic. While his innate talent added so much to the world of television, he will more importantly be remembered for his devotion as a loving, selfless husband, father and grandfather who fiercely protected everyone he loved.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on April 12th at Annunciation Church, Crestwood, NY.





**With Melanie Rock at
Super Bowl XXIII
Halftime Show in 3-D .**



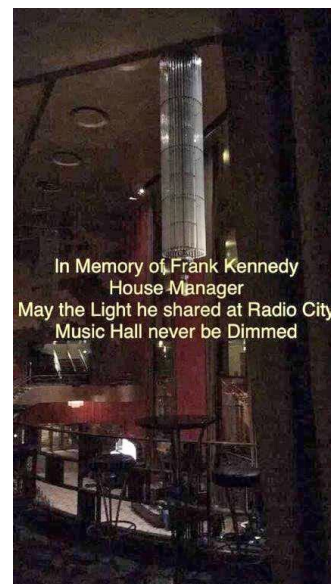
**Top Row: Frank, Mary Lou, Tara, Taylor, Alexis, Peyton.
Bottom Row: Madison and Elliot.**



**The Music Hall posted
this tribute to Frank.
At left, the lobby fully lit.**

**At right, the lobby
is in darkness in his honor.**

***"In Memory of Frank Kennedy
House Manager.
May the Light he shared
at Radio City Music Hall
never be Dimmed."***



**In Memory of Frank Kennedy
House Manager
May the Light he shared at Radio City
Music Hall never be Dimmed**

*Tributes to Silent Microphones***Bill Shand**

Bill Shand of Hillsborough, NJ passed away April 20th 2021. He was born September 8, 1942 on Staten Island, NY and was a 1960 graduate of Curtis HS on Staten Island. Bill worked at NBC TV in Rockefeller Center for 45 years filling various positions. He last worked as a video tape technician for the network.

Bill was an active member of the Castleton Hill Moravian Church, and was a member and leader of the youth fellowship. He also taught Sunday school for a time. Bill was always an avid auto racing fan, first attending races at Weissglass Stadium on Staten Island. His passion for racing blossomed into a long lasting association with National Speed Sport News as a writer, covering everything from national level events including the Indianapolis 500 to regional sprint car and midget car racing. Bill also had a long running column in NSSN called the Grandstand View in which he covered the personalities and behind the scene stories of auto racing.

Bill is survived by his sister Frances (Kenneth) Lundy of Hewitt, NJ, a brother Robert Shand of Hillsborough, and five nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents William and Martha Shand (nee Shore) and his brother David Shand.

A funeral service was held at 4pm on April 26th at the Hillsborough Funeral Home, Hillsborough NJ, 08844.

Bill had a love of all animals, big or small, and spent many days with his beloved horse Johnnie Walker Black, and his two cats Holly and Star. Donations in his memory can be made to the Castleton Ranch Horse Rescue, Gentle Giants Draft Horse Rescue, or to any animal shelter/rescue organization of choice.

© Hillsborough Funeral Home

Tributes from Bill's Friends**Louis Fallot**

Omg so sorry to hear this. His presence always lit up a room. I actually began my NBC career with Billy in duplicating. 1965! My condolences to his family. RIP Billy.

Susan Kramer

Billy was one in a million. He always had a twinkle in his eye, an infectious big smile and a generous heart. I'm heartbroken.

RIP Dearest Billy

Kathy Babiak

Bill was a very sweet soul who always greeted you with a smile. I am very sorry to hear of his passing.

*Tributes to Silent Microphones***Marilyn Jacobs-Furey**

Marilyn Jacobs-Furey passed away on the evening of May 8th. Marilyn was buried May 11th in a graveside ceremony. Born in New York City in 1929, Marilyn spent most of her career at NBC where she began in 1955. Until her retirement in 2006, she worked in all forms of live and tape television including legendary talk shows like *The Tonight Show* with hosts Steve Allen and Johnny Carson; game shows like *Tic Tac Dough* and *Concentration*; daytime dramas like *The Doctors* and *Another World*; and many NBC News programs, specials, conventions and inaugurations. She also appeared as a character actress on Steve Allen's Sunday night variety show.

As one of the earliest women in the leadership of the Director's Guild of America, Jacobs-Furey – who joined the Guild in 1960 as an Associate Director for NBC – was involved in Guild service for more than 35 years. As Assistant Secretary-Treasurer on the National Board for more than 20 years, along with roles on Guild Councils and Committees, Jacobs-Furey was an active part of the Guild's Eastern leadership and a strong advocate for members in the New York area. In 1992, she was presented with the Franklin Schaffner Achievement Award which is bestowed upon Associate Directors and Stage Managers in recognition of their service to the industry and the Guild.

Adapted from a note by Carla Engleman and also an remembrance in © DGA Newsletter

**Nick Tzanis**

Nicholas Diamond Tzanis died on May 1, 2021. He was 62 years old. Born on September 27, 1958 in New York City, he was the only child of Greek immigrant parents. A Bronx native, his toughness was matched only by his compassion, generosity, and charisma.

Although he died too soon, he led a rich and fulfilling life. Highlights include, but are not limited to, his time as an altar boy, Eagle Scout, semi-pro football player, race-car driver and mechanic, filmmaker and photographer, SCUBA diver, fisherman and charter-boat captain, professional marksman, golfer, cigar aficionado, Little League coach, teacher, artist, hunter, and handyman.

Professionally, he was a pioneer in his field. He spent more than two decades at NBC where he built world-class television facilities and launched three major cable networks, two of which are still thriving today. He later went on to bring cutting-edge technology to Montclair State University and mentor aspiring broadcast students.

Most of all, he is defined by the outsize love, steady guidance, and unflinching support for his family.

He is survived by his wife of nearly 40 years, Evmorfia, son, Adam, and daughter, Diana.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to stompthemonster.org and davidsdreamandbelieve.org

© New York Times.

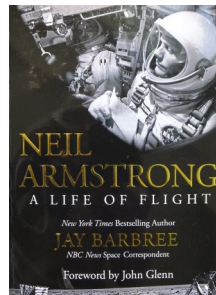
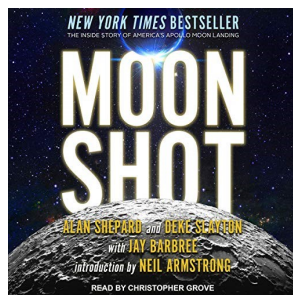
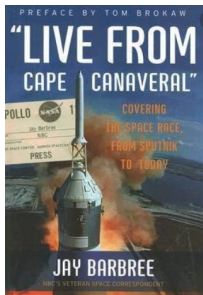


Tributes to Silent Microphones

Jay Barbree



Space journalist Jay Barbree died on May 14th in Merritt Island, Florida. The veteran NBC News correspondent was 87. Barbree began covering NASA in 1957 when the space agency was struggling with a series of humiliating rocket explosions. In 1958, Barbree joined NBC News and began a storied career that would span 59 years. He went on to cover every human space mission to leave U.S. soil, beginning with Alan Shepard's Freedom 7 flight in 1961, until the last space shuttle mission in 2011. In all, Barbree reported on 166 human spaceflight missions. Along the way, he authored several books focusing on NASA and the space race, including "Moon Shot" and "Live from Cape Canaveral: Covering the Space Race from Sputnik to Today."



He is survived by his wife, Jo, who he married in 1960, two daughters, one son and six grandchildren.

Barbree was working at Albany, Georgia, TV station WALB when the Soviet Union launched Sputnik on Oct. 4, 1957, ushering in the Space Age. Barbree was fascinated. He went to Florida, and on May 5, 1961, watched Shepard take off in the first manned space flight by an American. "That was a day that you'll never forget. We saw that rocket climb above the tree lines — everybody everywhere stopped," he said in an interview in 2007. "They stopped their cars, they fell on their knees, they fell in prayer watching this go. Everybody was pulling for Alan Shepard, and that was the very first for this country."

Barbree was friends with some of the nation's most recognizable astronauts. When Neil Armstrong, the first man on the moon, died in 2012, Barbree recalled succinctly: "You could not use the word 'good' too much. He was a good man." "He would be most pleased if what he accomplished here on Earth during his 82 years was remembered by those who will come again, and that they will continue the progress into space," Barbree said.

Barbree would go on to write "Neil Armstrong: A Life of Flight," which came out in 2014. He collaborated with Shepard and fellow Mercury Seven astronaut Deke Slayton in the earlier book "Moon Shot."

In 2012, Barbree reflected on the International Space Station and how it was teaching people to live in space — and he raised the possibility of one day being able to travel to Mars. "How the Armstrongs, the Aldrins, the Glenns — all of us who were here for Mercury, Gemini and Apollo — would like to be around for the 21st century's greatest adventure!" he wrote. "Our mortality says we can't, but our spirits won't be far away."

By Tom Costello, © NBC, May 14, 2021

*Tributes to Silent Microphones***Joe Krebs**

Joe Krebs, a television journalist who spent 32 years at WRC-TV (Channel 4) in Washington, including 18 as an anchor of the NBC-owned station's early-morning news program, died April 6 at his home in Rockville, Md. He was 78. The cause was pancreatic cancer, said his wife, Mary Lynne Krebs. After his diagnosis in 2018, Mr. Krebs was featured in a Channel 4 report about his illness and researchers' efforts to find a treatment and possible cure.

Early in his career, Mr. Krebs was a lawyer and a Navy officer before taking a pay cut to become a television reporter in Greensboro, N.C. In 1973, he moved to Baltimore's WBAL-TV. He came to Washington's Channel 4 in 1980 as a reporter who often drew on his legal expertise in covering such stories as the 1981 shooting of President Ronald Reagan and the subsequent trial of John Hinckley Jr.; the naval espionage case of John Walker and members of his family; the trial of D.C. drug kingpin Rayful Edmond; and the sensational case of abuse and revenge involving John and Lorena Bobbitt. Mr. Krebs reported from the cockpit of a Navy fighter jet and in 2007 covered the decommissioning of the USS John F. Kennedy, the Navy aircraft carrier on which he had served decades earlier.

After 14 years as a reporter, Mr. Krebs joined Barbara Harrison as co-anchor of Channel 4's morning news broadcast, now called News4 Today. Along with meteorologist Tom Kierein and traffic reporter Jerry Edwards, they presented what was perennially the region's top-rated morning news show.

In 1999, Mr. Krebs had a heart attack while riding his bicycle and was off the air for six weeks while he recovered. During that time, viewers sent him flowers, cards and food baskets. "It made me realize that something about the mornings — the contact you make with the viewer is at a very intimate time of day," he told *The Washington Post* in 2004. "The house is dark and quiet, people are just getting out of bed, and for viewers, there is a loyalty that comes with the early mornings." Mr. Krebs and the rest of the morning team received multiple local Emmy Awards.

Joseph Martin Krebs Jr., the oldest of nine children, was born March 22, 1943, in Carthage, Mo., and grew up in St. Louis. His father was an obstetrician-gynecologist, his mother a homemaker and dietitian. As a child, Mr. Krebs used to read the newspaper over an intercom in his family's house. "We would listen to the NBC News roundup," he later said in a Channel 4 profile, "and I just thought that sounded like the neatest thing in the world to do."

Mr. Krebs was a graduate of Saint Louis University, from which he also received a law degree in 1967. He then served as a naval officer on the USS John F. Kennedy, where his duties as a public affairs officer included taking dignitaries, such as Princess Grace of Monaco and actor Gregory Peck, on shipboard tours. **[Your PN Editor served with Joe and put him on the ship's TV station as anchor of our nightly news program. This was his first TV experience and lasted nine months.]**

He spent a year as a prosecutor in St. Louis County before becoming a TV reporter.

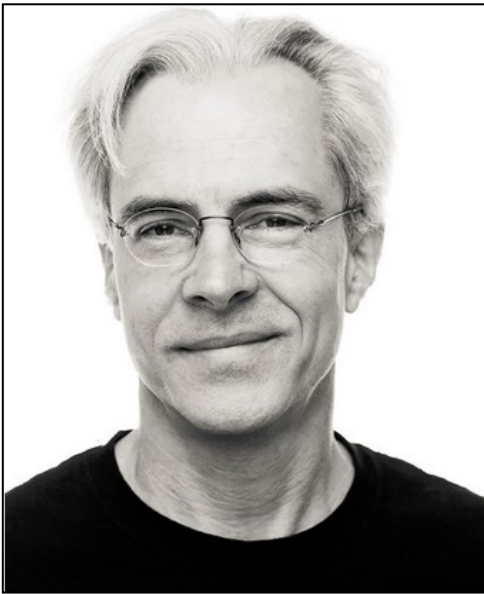
Mr. Krebs, who was a dedicated bicyclist and swimmer, twice swam across the Chesapeake Bay, a distance of more than four miles. He also participated in long-distance bicycle rides to raise money for AIDS awareness and other causes. He often went on bicycle camping trips with his brothers. Mr. Krebs served for 12 years as president of the Washington-Baltimore local of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists. He was on the union's national board and chaired its broadcast steering committee.

He was married in 1972 to Mary Lynne Kortum. In addition to his wife, survivors include their two daughters, five sisters, three brothers, and three grandchildren.

On his retirement in 2012, Mr. Krebs described how he approached his job: "Go to work every day, take your job seriously, and mean to do it well."

By Matt Schudel, © Washington Post, April 6, 2021



*Tributes to Silent Microphones***Erik Paulsen, NBC and ABC Engineer**

Erik John Paulsen, age 59, born in Hicksville, NY, residing in Weehawken, NJ passed away suddenly on Thursday, April 22, 2021. Survived by his beloved wife Joan (LeFosse); Erik was proud of his 18 year career with WABC-TV as a Broadcast Engineer. A renaissance man, with a unique sense of style, Erik would wire a studio, compose music, shoot a film project and tend his garden, and often all in the same day. Forever a young boy at heart, he explored the world and life with wonder and it was contagious. He is also survived by loving brother Wes Paulsen, sister-in-law Hannelore Voness. Predeceased by his adoring parents Edwin and Elena Paulsen.

The family received friends on April 26th and 27th at the Frank A. Patti and Kenneth Mikatarian Funeral Home in Fort Lee, NJ.

As an ardent supporter of the Arts and Humanities
you may make a donation in Erik's memory to one of the charities below:

90.7 WFUV, <https://support.wfuv.org/>

88.3 FM WBGO, <https://wbgo-web.memsys.com/donate/>

Community Foodbank of New Jersey, <https://cfbnj.org>

Planting Fields Arboretum, <https://plantingfields.org/>
or at

1395 Planting Fields Road, Oyster Bay, NY 11771

Erik's Friends Remember Him**Joel Spector**

His father, Edwin Wesley Paulsen, was a long-time electronic design engineer with NBC Broadcast Systems Engineering. I first encountered him in 1975 while observing the total redesign of 8H Control, moving it from its 1950 9th floor location to the 8th floor, repurposing dressing room and back hallway spaces. Father and sons were three classy guys.

Michael Gismondi

Some of you NBC folks may know Erik Paulsen as he worked with us in Post Production along with his brother Wes Paulsen before going to work at ABC.

I am in shock and deeply saddened by this terrible loss. To know Erik is to love him. Godspeed my friend.

John Russo

Sad. Worked with Erik, and his brother Wes for years. Good guy. Blessed be and RIP.

Antonio Richardson

Prayers up for him and his family.

Donna McCarthy

May he rest in peace! So sorry. He was a special gentleman!

*Tributes to Silent Microphones***Smith Sumroy**

Smith Sumroy, 63, passed away on February 27, 2021, after a massive heart attack at home. He was born in Muttontown, NY and later moved to Cranford, NJ where he was a resident for 40 years. Smith graduated from Adelphi University in Garden City, NY before beginning his career to become the number one stage manager at WNBC in Rockefeller Center. He was passionate about his career and touched many people's lives through his 40 years at NBC.

In his private time, Smith loved the ocean and regularly sailed. He had an exceptionally kind heart towards his family and his pets.

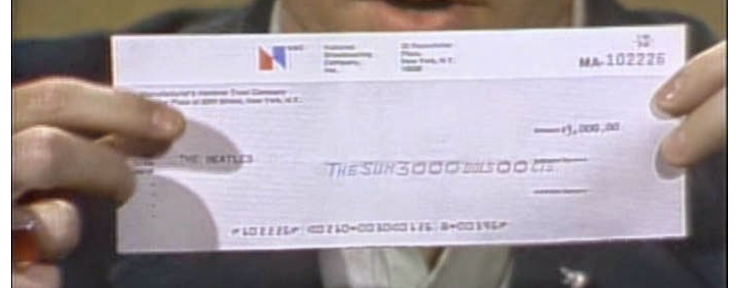
He is predeceased by his father, Jack, a pioneer WNBC Producer-Director, and his mother, Carol Sumroy.

He is survived by his loving wife, Laura Sumroy; step-daughter Georgia Bernhard; three sisters, Melissa Greene, Jennifer Sumroy, and Rebecca DiGiovanni and her husband Joseph; an uncle, Jason Snow; his niece Chelsea and nephew Ian DiGiovanni, nephews Hayden and Connor Greene, and niece and nephew Nina and Garo Balabanian; also his sisters-in-law, Kristin Balabanian and Kate Cowan, and brother-in-law Mark Balabanian.

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations "In memory of Smith Sumroy" made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (www.stjude.org).

Published in © The Star-Ledger on March 7, 2021.



*Peacock History***Lorne and The Beatles**

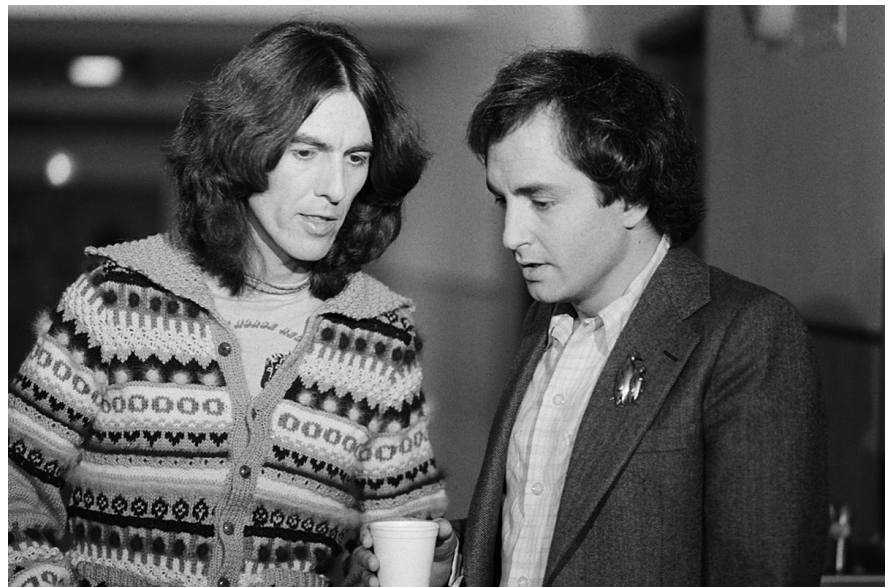
On April 24, 1976, "Saturday Night Live" producer Lorne Michaels made what would become a running gag on SNL with his offer of \$3,000 to the Beatles to appear on the late-night comedy show. The camera then zoomed in for a close-up of a \$3,000 check from NBC made payable to The Beatles. Having had no response from the Fab Four, a month later, on May 22, 1976, Michaels upped the ante to \$3,200 - an extra \$50 each, Michaels declared!

Paul McCartney has commented in interviews that he and John Lennon were watching the SNL broadcast from Lennon's apartment in the Dakota on the night when Michaels made his offer for the Beatles to reunite. McCartney reported that he and Lennon briefly toyed with the idea of going down to the NBC studios and taking Michaels up on the offer. As a group, the Beatles never appeared on "Saturday Night Live," but Paul, George and Ringo have all appeared on the popular Saturday night television program individually.

George Harrison appeared on the November 20, 1976 episode of SNL. During the opening, Harrison and Michaels talked about the \$3,000 offer, as Michaels explained to George that meant it was \$3,000 for all four of them - that payment was only \$750 for one person! After George called this bargaining "chintzy" Lorne said "Well, I'll tell you what. I know there's \$250 available for the opening, for the person who says, 'Live from New York, it's Saturday Night.'"

George Harrison Smiled excitedly, turned to the camera and said "Live from New York, it's Saturday Night!"

[Material adapted from articles © Susan Petersen and © Gibson.com]

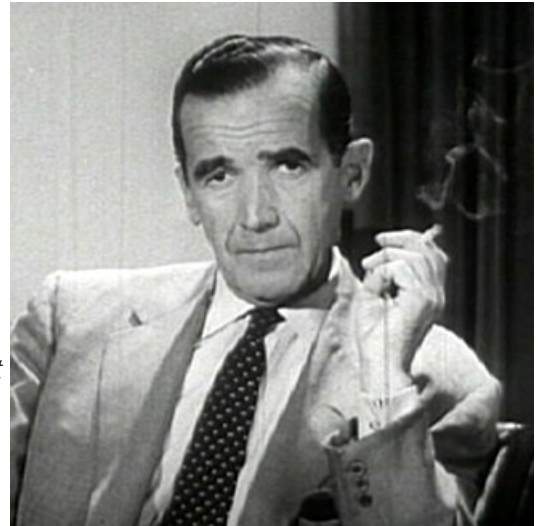


*The Kicker***“What’s in Your TV?”**

Speaking to the Radio & Television News Directors
Association in 1958,
Edward R. Murrow observed that:

*This instrument can teach, it can illuminate; yes, and even it
can inspire. But it can do so only to the extent that humans are
determined to use it to those ends.*

Otherwise, it's nothing but wires and lights in a box.
*There is a great and perhaps decisive battle to be fought against
ignorance,
intolerance and indifference.
This weapon of television could be useful.*



..Well, a photographer took those thoughts one step further...



New Member News

William Bartlett started in the NBC press department in 1995 and was quickly tapped to be Bob Wright's speechwriter. By the time his tenure ended in 2020, he had not only written many speeches but a couple of books as well. One of the hats he was grateful to wear for the second half of his career was that of unofficial NBC historian and curator of the history exhibits in the commissary and in the 30 Rock lobby. He's the author of *NBC and 30 Rock: A View from Inside* (for sale at the NBC Store; Peacock North members receive the employee discount). He's currently busy with freelance writing projects for a number of media companies.

David McCormick started in April 1973 at the news department at Cleveland's WKYC, eventually becoming its News Director. Moved to NYC to become domestic editor on the News Desk and then to Segment 3 producer for *NBC Nightly News*. He served as bureau chief in Frankfurt, London and New York. Also served as Special Projects Producer for *Nightly News*. In 1993, appointed first EP of Standards for NBC News and retired as SVP, Standards in August 2018.

Barbara Raab writes that she is currently winding down 2.5 years as Senior Producer of Podcasts & Audio (I helped launch this new unit). Prior, I was at NBC News from 1993-2014 as a producer and Senior Producer at *Date-line*, MSNBC and most of the time at *Nightly News*.

Paul Thiriot writes: I've pretty much worked as a freelancer almost exclusively for NBC for years I clearly recall my first big assignment for the network was the 1986 Olympics in Calgary. I was there for 4 weeks as chief photographer at KUTV (the NBC affiliate) in Salt Lake and had done a few assignments for NBC when they couldn't get their people someplace out West in time. I also worked on the Seoul Olympic Games in 1988. Then came Heather Allan, who hired me regularly and worked out a deal with KUTV to pay half my salary to look out for NBC's interests in the West. I haven't retired completely. I still do NBC assignments two or three times a month. Just enough to help pay for the dog food!



Your contacts: Marilyn Altman, Lenny Stucker.

Editors: Joel Spector, Kathy Powers, David Heiser, Ken Fouts.

Membership Coordinator: John Fider **Webmaster:** Rich Munde.

E-mail: Peacock.North@gmail.com

Mailing Address: PO Box 112, Rowayton, CT 06853