

From: Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]
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Connecting

September 26, 2014

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Remembering Lloyd C. Swann 1933 - 2014

Colleagues,

Word has been received of the death last Friday in Smyrna, Tenn., of former AP Chief of Communications **Lloyd C. Swann** at age 81. Swann retired in 1995 after a lengthy career that included stints as CoC in Louisville, Ky., and as "traffic bureau chief" in Richmond, Va. A native of Nashville, he lived for many years in Shepherdsville, Ky.



Lloyd Swann

"Lloyd was the perfect complement to the bureau chief in that he knew that a communication problem was a membership problem," said **Andy Lippman**, who worked with Swann for three years in Louisville. "In fact, Lloyd was so good at the membership side that it seemed that Kentucky had two CoBs."



*Swann, circa
1968*

According to an article in a 1981 edition of AP World, Swann and recently retired predecessor, **Ronald Jenkins**, helped a Kentucky newspaper resume service after the member's building was destroyed by fire. The fire early on an August Saturday left the Murray (Ky.) Ledger & Times building in ruins. Jenkins traveled to Murray the next day to replace the newspaper's charred AP equipment with new while Swann went to the bureau and linked the new equipment into Louisville's computer ready to receive copy for Monday's edition. The afternoon daily did not miss an issue.

"He had seen and done so much and had done so much in his career that for someone who had just become a chief of bureau for the first time, he was a wonderful mentor," Lippman recalled. "Plus, if there was a project to be done, he knew just who and how to go to someone to make it happen.

"I've got a lot of memories of spending time of driving down Kentucky roads, listening to that drawl and listening to him spinning stories about people I'd only heard of."

Another former Louisville Chief of Bureau, **Ed Staats**, said Swann "was the consummate communications chief who could always be counted on to have all the equipment and circuits in place to cover the news whether from Associated Press bureaus or wherever news was breaking. I had the pleasure of working with him in Louisville for 10 years prior to his retirement. During his long career, he managed technological change at AP that over the years ranged from balky 45 word-per-minute telegraph circuits to near-instantaneous delivery of news and photos in the Internet age."

Swann is survived by four daughters, nine grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, **Mildred Alice Swann**.

According to his [obituary](#), he "loved playing golf and took pleasure in cooking. Mr. Swann also enjoyed piddling on different projects and was known to be a fix-it man."

His funeral was held Monday in Smyrna. Memorials can be made to Parkway Baptist Church, 1715 Lee Victory Pkwy, Smyrna, Tenn. 37167, or to Shepherdsville First Baptist Church, 254 S Buckman St., Shepherdsville, Ky. 40165.

Health news from Jim Lagier

Connecting colleague [Jim Lagier](#) shares with his Facebook and Connecting friends:

To coin a cliché, it was a punch in the gut when the oncologist -- without apology or commiseration -- told me I had terminal cancer. I asked about my probable longevity and she said, "One year." I asked how chemotherapy might extend my life. She said, "just weeks." That was five months ago. The cancer had metastasized from the bladder to the lymph nodes. Since then, amazingly, I have had no side effects.

After much badgering from friends and relatives, I sought a second opinion. This oncologist, from a different hospital and head of the department, gave a lecture on the complexities of cancer, prognosticating it or outguessing it. No one knows, he said. "Although no one knows, I can guarantee you immortality," he said with a cherubic smile. Later, I messaged my thanks for the erudite lecture and the guarantee of immortality, reminding him I had it on tape.

In the interim between the two oncology sessions, I have had the most incredible, moving messages from former colleagues and former staffers who worked for me over my 40 years with The Associated Press.

Health news from Sue Price Johnson

Joe Johnson shares word that his wife, [Sue Price Johnson](#), fell and broke her right arm "really good" while in Burlington, N.C., Thursday evening. She was admitted to Alamance Regional Hospital and was due to have surgery this morning. "I have all of her electronic toys so (she) can't take a call or read anything just yet... Please say a prayer for her. Thanks!"

Connecting mailbox

[Larry Heinzerling](#) (on the campaign for a belated Pulitzer Prize for Ed Kennedy, updated in Thursday's Connecting) _ My father, **Lynn Heinzerling**, who won a Pulitzer for his coverage of Congo independence in 1960, was with Ed Kennedy in Italy during the war. He always spoke highly of him, and I am certain would support this effort, as do I.

[George Bria](#) _ A nitpick to **Steve Graham's** otherwise splendid remarks on the stupid Atlantic Monthly piece by a writer who wants to die at 75. The correct cablese was "assward:" (not ass-wise) as in the famed

message to NY from a frustrated corespondent, "upstick job assward."

[John Gibbons](#) _ There has been a lot of talk recently about the M15 printers. There has been a lot of discussion about their removal from service, but none about where they came from.

I was AP's Equipment Record Keeper for many years, and saw many invoices from Teletype Corporation for the purchase of these units. (They cost \$600.00 each, and the oldest invoices I recall was from the mid 1940's.)

However, when I started with the AP in 1965, **C. H. McDonald** (AP's Chief of Maintenance at the time) was purchasing M15's from a surplus dealer. They were military surplus. At the time, the "Shop" was located at 475 10th Ave., (corner of 36th Street). That's only 3 blocks from AP's current location!

I remember the printers being delivered in a U-Haul trailer. They were filthy, oily, and in various states of disrepair. AP technicians would repair, clean-up, and test the units. They would then be shipped all around the country, as needed.

Many of the printers were converted from M15 (5-unit, all-caps) to M20 (6-unit, upper/lower case) by changing many parts in the typing unit.

What goes around comes around?

[Joe McGowan](#) _ There used to be a newspaper produced in Intercourse, Pa. I have a copy around somewhere in my files. I think it was the Intercourse Gazette. I looked in E&P Yearbook but they don't list weeklies. Maybe someone can help with this. Also, that Teletype from Colorado Press (Connecting, Sept. 25) was a gift to them from me, as I just e-mailed Jim Clarke.

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More odd newspaper names (Connecting, Sept. 24)

[Bill Kaczor](#) _ The paper in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., was known as the Playground Daily News until 1988 when the name was changed to Northwest Florida Daily News. I worked there part time in 1970-71 while stationed at Eglin Air Force Base. Local tourism boosters had dubbed it the Playground area, hence the newspaper's moniker. They've since ditched that name and now call the area the Emerald Coast.

[Dave Tomlin](#) _ If you want a living and daily newspaper Avalanche, the

Lubbock, Tex., paper is the Avalanche-Journal.

Dave also shared these:

Oil City PA Derrick

Sumter SC Daily Item

[Marty Thompson](#) _ There's the Taft (California) Midway Driller. Not a reference to dentists -- it's in an oil patch. The list cited one of my favorites, the Laramie Daily Boamarang.

And from **Bob Daugherty**:

Foster's Daily Democrat, Dover NH

Pharos Tribune in Logansport, IN

News from AP

Now accepting applications: Journalism fellowship on the economics of aging and work

The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research, in partnership with APME, and with funding from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, is offering a journalism fellowship that will focus on the economics of aging and work. This fellowship is a 10-month residential fellowship located at the headquarters of the independent research organization NORC at the University of Chicago.

This is the second fellowship being awarded, following on the tremendous success of the first program which contributed insightful content to the Aging America series and allowed the fellow to participate in a highly personalized training program on research and data analysis for news.

The fellow will be selected through a national competition open to journalists with at least five years of experience. Journalists working in text, radio, television and online are eligible to apply.

The fellowship will include the opportunity to produce regular journalism for distribution by AP on issues related to the aging American workforce, to learn the skills of research-based enterprise reporting, to work with economists at the University of Chicago, and to participate in a NORC survey on retirement planning issues facing the baby boom generation.

While the fellow's reporting will be targeted for a national audience, there will be opportunities to add a local or regional focus. At the end of the 10 months, the fellow will return to the newsroom with skills and experiences designed to elevate not just their own coverage of

economic issues but also to share with colleagues. More information about the fellowship including the online application process is available at www.apnorc.org.

Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis until a candidate is selected, so it's important to get applications in as soon as possible. The fellowship will begin in January 2015.

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Stories of interest

[Ferguson, Mo., PR consultant terminated after media uncovers deadly past](#)

Devin Sean James, who is overseeing public relations for Ferguson after the Michael Brown shooting, once shot and killed an unarmed man. James, 32, began working for the city about two weeks after Ferguson police Officer Darren Wilson killed the unarmed 18-year-old Brown on Aug. 9.

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[Attkisson: Holder's targeting of journalists among nine controversies departing AG leaves for successor](#)

The unexpected resignation of Attorney General **Eric Holder** follows a series of court rulings against his Department of Justice over its failure to produce documents related to the government's "Fast and Furious" firearms operation. Holder also has come under increasing congressional criticism for a tepid investigation of evidence that IRS officials deliberately targeted tea party and other conservative groups for greater scrutiny when they applied for tax-exempt status.

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[Iconic New York TV newsman John Slattery dies](#)

John Slattery, a television newsman who reported on New York City and its environs for 35 years, covering stories from petty crimes to the destruction of the World Trade Center towers, died late Wednesday or early Thursday at his home in New Rochelle, N.Y. He was 63.



John Slattery

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[What Bill Simmons' suspension tells us about the changing world of journalism](#) (shared by Latrice Davis)

ESPN's decision to suspend **Bill Simmons**, one of its most prominent employees, for his derogatory comments about NFL Commissioner **Roger Goodell** -- he called him a "liar" -- might seem like a sports story. But, really it's a journalism story -- a telling example of not only how the balance of power is shifting between big, faceless corporate media organizations and the increasingly high-profile individual brands they employ but also of how the definition of what constitutes reporting and journalism is undergoing a huge change.

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[The newsonomics of auctioning off Digital First's newspapers](#)

More than 200 newspapers are up for sale - as one group, in clusters, or one by one. Where they go could have a big impact on how the industry will look in the coming years.

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[Could a Bay Area news nonprofit take over some of its biggest newspapers](#)

There are plenty of reasons for it not to happen. But news nonprofits could end up being vehicles for civic-minded locals to take over dailies as they continue to drop in value.

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[Newspapers weren't late to online news -- they were way too early](#)

In 1980, the possibility of computers killing newspapers seemed remote. And it was! Electronic news services wouldn't pose a serious threat to newspapers for another 20 years. Yet of course, in the long run, computers did pose an existential threat to newspapers.

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[Jim Brady profile: The Billy Pulpit](#)

With BillyPenn.com, **Jim Brady** - the famed, fast-failing digital evangelist - aims to show Philadelphians the future of local news.

Brady responds via Facebook: "Philly Magazine wrote a profile on what I'm working on in Philadelphia. Major takeaway: Apparently, I wear "Dad jeans." My lawyers have been notified."

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[Do you recognize these obsolete technologies?](#)

Hardly anyone uses them anymore, but at one point they were cutting edge and people were thanking their lucky stars that they existed!

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AP Best of the States

Scenes of police officers advancing on protesters with military-style hardware were among the most striking images to emerge from the racial unrest in Ferguson, Missouri.

At the suggestion of colleague **Eileen Sullivan**, Los Angeles law enforcement reporter **Tami Abdollah** and Washington Justice Department reporter **Eric Tucker** set out to determine whether other troubled departments had gotten the same type of war-zone weaponry used in Ferguson.

First, Tucker and Abdollah created a list of police departments censured by the federal government for violating the constitutional rights of

citizens. Then, they cross-referenced that list against the program through which local police departments receive free military surplus gear from the Pentagon.

They found that police from Los Angeles to Warren, Ohio, had received or were expecting weaponry including M-16 assault rifles. The DOJ had labeled these departments as problem agencies because of a pattern of violations, including excessive force, false arrest and unreasonable searches. But these violations never factored into the decisions because there was no communication between the Defense and Justice departments before the arms were distributed, a fact that was acknowledged by a Pentagon official during a Senate hearing on police militarization.

"We need to do a better job there," **Alan Estevez** said.

Abdollah and Tucker's reporting showed how this lack of oversight and communication between two major arms of the federal government could lead to the Justice Department censuring forces for constitutional violations _ while another arm allowed them free rein to acquire lethal weaponry.

While Tucker contacted the departments for comment, Abdollah worked to get the specific tactical breakdown for the Los Angeles Police Department from the state.

[The story](#) was a "most shared" on AP Mobile and was tweeted by The Center for Investigative Reporting and ProPublica.

For connecting the dots and providing an exclusive and insightful piece of enterprise off one of the year's top U.S. Stories, Abdollah and Tucker share this week's \$300 Best of the States prize. -- *Brian Carovillano*

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iPhone 6 Plus Bend Test

The last word

Jon Fortt, the technophile on-air editor for technology at CNBC and a former online member of the Associated Press Managing Editors, commented today on Apple's disaster of a rollout of iOS 8.0.1 this week for the new iPhone and other Apple products: "The rest of us would like to thank the early adopters for downloading iOS 8.0.2. [#CanariesInTheCoalMine](#) "

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