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## Connecting - April 17, 2017

1 message

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# Connecting

April 17, 2017

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Colleagues,

Good Monday morning!

**Guy Darst** and **Jerry Nachtigal** served The Associated Press well, each for 18 years - and after leaving the AP, both experienced success in their second and third careers.

Sadly, both died of cancer too young - Darst at 76 on March 14 and Nachtigal at 57 on Sunday - and we tell you about their lives and their achievements in today's issue of Connecting.

I didn't have the pleasure of meeting Guy Darst during his AP years of 1973-77 in Boston where he served as news editor (appointed by then-CoB Joe McGowan), 1977-81 in Detroit where he covered the auto industry, and 1981-1991 in Washington where he covered energy and environmental issues.

I met Jerry Nachtigal when I came to Kansas City where he had been one of the staff's most versatile reporters and in 1989 I appointed him to be the second correspondent in Springfield, Missouri, succeeding Donna Bryson. He moved from there to Phoenix before leaving AP in 1999.

If you would like to share a memory of Guy or Jerry, please send it along today. And contact me if you'd like an address to send condolences to their families.

Paul

## **Guy Darst, former AP news editor and Boston Herald deputy editor, dies at 76**

Guy B. Darst Jr., a former deputy editor for the Boston Herald and news editor for the Associated Press, died March 14 from pancreatic cancer. He was 76.

Mr. Darst was born in Spartanburg, S.C.

He was a 1959 graduate of the Phillips Exeter Academy in New Hampshire and a 1963 graduate of Harvard College.

He served in the Army before joining The Trentonian newspaper, where he began his journalism career in New Jersey and prepared columns for the Public Information Office at Fort Dix, N.J.

He later worked for United Press International in Boston and joined the News Office of Harvard University.

Mr. Darst was then employed as news editor for the Associated Press bureau in Boston, where he worked before joining the Detroit bureau to cover the auto industry in 1977.

He then joined the Washington bureau to cover energy and environmental issues and worked for the AP until 1991.

Mr. Darst was then hired by Pasha Publications in Arlington, Va., where he worked until 1994.



He was then employed as a chief editorial writer and deputy editor of the editorial pages at the Boston Herald until retirement in 2002.

He often told friends that writing editorials in Boston was the most rewarding part of his professional life because "they pay you to shoot off your mouth."

He is survived by his wife, Caroline Greve, and three brothers, David Martin of Greenwich, Conn., Charles Lee of Rice, Wash. and Daniel Stephen of St. Louis, Mo.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, Massachusetts Chapter, 9 Erie Drive, Natick.

A memorial service will be held at Loeb House (formerly the old President's House), 17 Quincy Street, Cambridge, MA, Tuesday, April 18, at 11:00 AM.

[Click here](#) for a link to this story.

## ***Rachelle Cohen: Herald family mourns friend, mentor***



**WORDSMITH: Guy Darst, who penned editorials for the Boston Herald before illness overtook him, is shown with Editorial Assistant Shannon Riley, left, and Editorial Page Editor Rachelle Cohen.**

**By RACHELLE COHEN**

**Boston Herald**

Goodbyes are so hard. And when that goodbye is to someone who has been a mentor, a colleague, a man whose words have been a part of these pages for several decades, well, where do you find the words?

Savvy readers of the Herald's editorial pages may have noticed the absence of Guy Darst's words in recent weeks.

Sure, editorials are unsigned, but you could bet that if an edit was rich in numbers - percentages even - or filled with historic or literary references, well, it was the product of a mind steeped in the classics who also considered math "beautiful."

And if there was a reference to Winston Churchill, well, no question that was a Guy Darst editorial.

Read more [here](#).

## Jerry Nachtigal, former AP newsman, correspondent; press aide to governors, exec with CitiBank, dies at 57

Jerry Nachtigal, who spent 18 years working for The Associated Press in Missouri and Arizona, stood tall in one of Missouri's greatest tragedies and served as a senior vice president for CitiBank, died Sunday at Sanford Health in Sioux Falls, SD. He was 57.

Nachtigal suffered from an aggressive form of cancer in his lungs, chest and neck. He had told his family that he wanted to live to see Easter and died peacefully at 8:40 am with wife Ann at his side.

In an Instagram post Sunday night, his son Jack wrote: "He has taught me many things, and most importantly gave me my weird sense of humor. You were the best man I've ever known. You gave me the strength and courage to fight for the things I care about and never let me forget how special I am."

Nachtigal was hired as a newsman in 1981 in Kansas City and was named correspondent of the Springfield, Missouri, bureau in 1989. Nachtigal finished his AP career in the Phoenix bureau.



Longtime friend and former Springfield, Mo., journalist Chris Sifford convinced Nachtigal to leave the wire service in 1999 and become spokesman for Missouri Gov. Mel Carnahan.

It was Nachtigal who confirmed for the world the deaths of Carnahan, who was running for U.S. Senate; the governor's eldest son, Randy Carnahan, and Sifford, when their plane crashed en route to a campaign appearance Oct. 16, 2000.

The night of the Carnahan crash, Nachtigal stood alongside Lt. Gov. Roger Wilson, who was named acting governor and a few hours later took the oath as governor. Wilson said Sunday from his home in Columbia:



**Jerry Nachtigal (far left) on the night of the tragic plane crash that killed Missouri Gov. Mel Carnahan and two others. He is shown with House Speaker Steve Gaw; Governor's Chief Legal Counsel, Joe Bednar; Secretary of State Bekki Cook (partially obscured); Lt. Gov. Roger Wilson, who became acting governor and then governor; Attorney General Jay Nixon (who recently retired after two terms as governor) and State Auditor Claire McCaskill, now U.S. senator. (AP Photo/L.G. Patterson)**

"Jerry showed so much courage and leadership amid a terrible tragedy for the state of Missouri. He was a source of strength and caring, even though his own heart was breaking. Jerry was a thoughtful, energetic, caring person, always trying to help others. Pat and I are so sad about Jerry's passing. He will always have a special place in our hearts and memories."

Nachtigal served as communications director for Wilson, who completed Carnahan's term, and continued on as communications director for Missouri Gov. Bob Holden until 2002.

Nachtigal wanted to return to his home state of South Dakota, where he grew up in Brookings and earned his journalism degree from South Dakota State University. In 2003, he joined Citibank as Senior Vice President of Public Affairs, overseeing internal and external communications for the bank's flagship credit card site in Sioux Falls. Nachtigal also administered much of Citi's philanthropy budget in South Dakota.

On June 12, 2016, Nachtigal was appointed to a 3-year term on the South Dakota Bankers Association. He also served on the board of directors of the Delta Dental of South Dakota Foundation and Sioux Falls Family YMCA. He was a member of the SDSU Foundation Council of Trustees and vice chairman of the Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce Community Appeals Committee.

Nachtigal's greatest achievement was his family. He and Ann have three children. Reid will graduate in May from SDSU. Jack is a sophomore at University of Minnesota; and Libby is a sophomore at Washington High School in Sioux Falls.

## ***On last visit with Jerry Nachtigal: 'I am going to visit those white squirrels for you'***

**Connie Farrow** ([Email](#)) - On Friday, I entered a South Dakota hospital room to say goodbye to longtime friend and former AP colleague Jerry Nachtigal. I called him, "Nachos."

He was the still the affable man I had befriended 28 years earlier, although the cancer in his lungs and chest made each breath a struggle. I clasped his hand and promised to remember happier times of rollerblading around Springfield and the high-spirited teasing and silliness that seemed to always occur when our friends were together.

I was business editor at The Springfield News-Leader in 1989 when Jerry was named SMO correspondent. His friendly nature and quick wit led to his immediate induction into our tight-knit group of radio, print and TV reporters. Nicknames were a tradition. Chris Sifford, who was working at KTTS radio, anointed Jerry "Nachos To Go" - or "Nachos" for short.

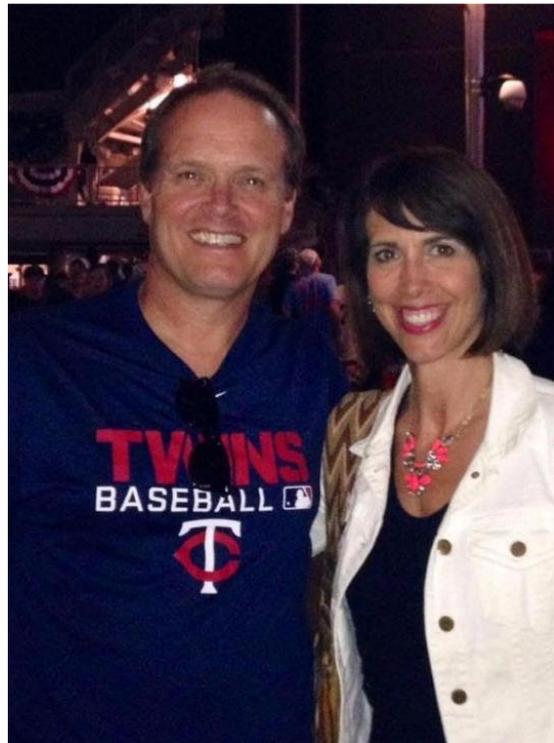
Perhaps the biggest and most difficult story Jerry covered came in nearby Mount Vernon, Missouri, where the case of Nancy Cruzan led to a landmark US Supreme Court decision on the right to die. On a cold December day in 1990, he reported that she died peacefully, her parents by her side and euthanasia foes camped outside the hospital.

Jerry embraced life in the Ozarks and had a knack for discovering the area's best stories and then eeking out priceless

quotes to land on the national wire. He put Springfield on the map as the city where cashew chicken was created. But it was a colony of white squirrels in the southwest Missouri town of Marionville that intrigued him most.

Years later, after I was named Springfield AP correspondent, Jerry would email to remind that if I needed a weekend feature, the Marionville white squirrels were only a short drive away.

Jerry eventually married Ann, a Springfield TV reporter. Chris and I visited them in Phoenix, where Jerry worked as a newsman.



**Jerry and Ann**

In 1999, Chris convinced Jerry to leave the AP and join him on Missouri Gov. Mel Carnahan's staff. Our circle of friends widened to include their Jefferson City colleagues.

The happy reunion ended on Oct. 16, 2000, when the twin-engine Cessna carrying Carnahan, who was running for U.S. Senate, to a campaign event, crashed. Son Randy Carnahan, who was the pilot, and Chris were also killed.

My heart ached as I watched Jerry struggle to read the news release that confirmed the three were dead. It was later the next day before we caught up with each other. There were more tears than words.

Tears flowed again on Thursday as three former Carnahan staffers and I drove from central Missouri to Sioux Falls. This time, we were going to say goodbye to Jerry.

It struck me that few are privileged to have so many friends with unfailing character, strength and humor.

Wife Ann and their three children showed remarkable grace and strength, allowing each of us to privately say goodbye to Jerry on Friday.

"And, I am going to visit those white squirrels for you," I whispered before leaving his bedside.

# AP story on heart transplant involved NFL player, baseball great

**Jaime Aron** ([Email](#)) - I'd like to share the following story I wrote, which has received terrific feedback. The Sunday Long Read newsletter/website named it their "Favorite Read" of the week.

The story is about Rod Carew getting his new heart from an NFL player, one who'd gone to middle school with Rod's kids. But there is so much more to the tale, as I was fortunate to learn about during more than two months of reporting it. As I wrote in my Facebook post: Tragedy. Joy. Sports. Family. Mystery. Faith. The story of Rod Carew getting his new heart and kidney from a 29-year-old NFL player has it all and more.

## Meet Konrad Reuland, the late NFL player whose heart and kidney are keeping baseball great Rod Carew alive

SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, California - One evening last April, NFL right end Konrad Reuland sat on a barstool in his parents' kitchen and started filling out his driver's license renewal form.

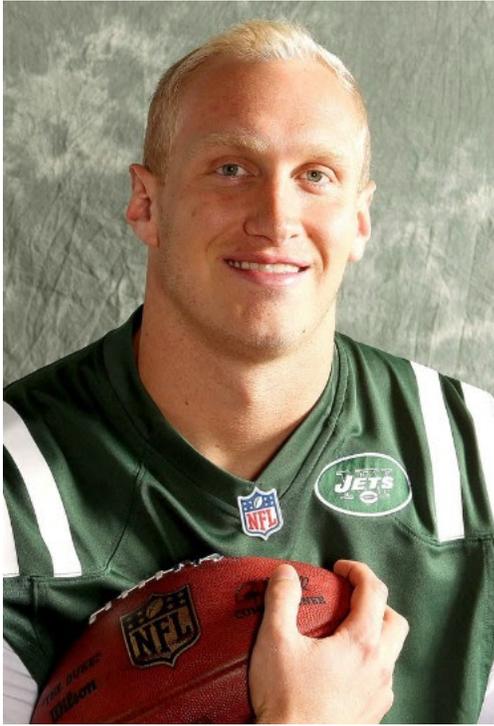
His mom was making dinner, so they chatted while blowing through their tasks. She pulled out plates; he updated his address.

He skipped the questions for commercial drivers and military veterans. At Section 6, he paused and asked his mom for some advice.

"Do you think I should be an organ donor?" he said.

"It's up to you," she said. "It's a personal decision."

"Are you?" he said.



"Yes," she said. "If I can't use my organs anymore, maybe they can help someone else."

He thought about it briefly and said, "I'm going to do it, too." And on he went to page two of the form.

A month later, the Baltimore Ravens released Reuland (ROO-land). The Colts signed him in July, but let him go in late August.'

Read more [here](#).

## Welcome to Connecting



John Milne - [jmilne@mcttelecom.com](mailto:jmilne@mcttelecom.com)

## Stories of interest

## ***The FCC spectrum auction is sending \$10 billion to broadcasters. Where will that money go?*** (Nieman)

Here are some numbers of a magnitude rarely seen in news media.

\$19.8 billion - that's how much revenue resulted from participating broadcasters selling parts of their broadcast spectrum to wireless carriers hoping to expand their nationwide reach, as part of the Federal Communications Commission's first-ever spectrum auction, which has just closed.

\$10.05 billion - that's how much 175 broadcasters will be getting, total, from the auction. (\$7.3 billion is going toward reducing the federal budget deficit.)

\$194 million - that's the largest payout for a single station participating in the auction: It's going to WNJN, the New Jersey public television station. Here in Boston, WGBH is getting \$218.7 million, total, to move WGBH and WGBY in Springfield to lower frequencies.

More than 30 noncommercial TV stations participated in the auction, and 23 of them are officially listed as going off-air - but, as Current points out, "a station's signal going off the air does not necessarily mean that all of the broadcaster's stations are going dark." (Current has been compiling details about the non-commercial stations that sold here.) Not all stations sold: Howard University had been considering selling its license for WHUT, the only black-owned public media station in the U.S., but withdrew from the auction in February.

Read more [here](#).

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## ***A Downtown Loft Development Steeped in the Glory Days of Print Newspapers*** (AdWeek)



717 LOCUST ST.  
DES MOINES, IA 50309  
515.369.RTDM (7863)

There are six floor plans available at 715-17 Locus Ave. in downtown Des Moines. All of them named in honor of the business that previously occupied the 14-story highrise space now known as R&T Lofts.

Fittingly, the most expansive plan, a 2 Bedroom/2 Bath unit laid out over 1,172 square feet, is called Above the Fold. The other unit floor plans, in order of size, are named Crop, Scoop, Teaser, Cutline and City.

A lot of memories were recalled when the building was sold in the fall of 2014. It has taken a bit longer than expected for the redevelopment to be completed, but now that it has been, we thought it worth revisiting some odes to a former place of business of not one but two newspapers, the Des Moines Register and the Des Moines Tribune, an afternoon daily that ceased publication in 1982.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Kevin Walsh.

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***Iowa Pulitzer winner will spend award money on party, open records, refugees*** (Washington Post)

By ERIK WEMPLE

The Washington Post

Art Cullen, the 60-year-old editor of the Storm Lake Times, doesn't bother with rinky-dink journalism contests. "I don't need a wooden plaque or a piece of paper," Cullen told the Erik Wemple Blog on Monday. That's when he won the Pulitzer Prize for editorial writing at the twice-weekly Storm Lake Times in Iowa. "They give you 15 grand. That's worth it," said Cullen.

So how's Cullen and Co. spending the money? "We intend to put a jag on, then donate the rest of the money half to IFOIC and other local charities, probably all the other half to Catholic Charities to help resettle refugees in Storm Lake. After the bash, that means IFOIC gets \$5 and the refugees get a Big Mac and fries," writes Cullen in an email.

The IFOIC is the Iowa Freedom of Information Council, which describes itself as a "coalition of journalists, librarians, lawyers, educators and other Iowans devoted to open government." Its role in the Storm Lake Times' Pulitzer started with a journalist whining over the phone. The Storm Lake Times had been pressing three northern Iowa counties - Buena Vista, Calhoun and Sac - for internal records relating to just how they were financing their defense against a lawsuit filed by the Des Moines Water Works, which claimed that the counties had allowed elevated nitrate levels in the Raccoon River. For some unknown reason, the counties stonewalled the requests from the 3,000-circulation newspaper with little Internet profile.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Bob Daugherty.

## The Final Word

***Fake News Ale is the beer all the cool  
journalists are gonna be drinking this summer***

(Nieman Lab)



Plus: Facebook buys some print ads in Germany, research on the polarizing effects of social media, and sometimes it's not fake news - it's just good old fabrication.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Bob Daugherty.

## Today in History - April 17, 2017



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, April 17, the 107th day of 2017. There are 258 days left in the year.

### **Today's Highlight in History:**

On April 17, 1937, cartoon character Daffy Duck made his debut in the Warner Bros. animated short "Porky's Duck Hunt," directed by Tex Avery.

### **On this date:**

In 1492, a contract was signed by Christopher Columbus and a representative of Spain's King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella, giving Columbus a commission to seek a westward ocean passage to Asia.

In 1861, the Virginia State Convention voted to secede from the Union.

In 1924, the motion picture studio Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer was founded, the result of a merger of Metro Pictures, Goldwyn Pictures and the Louis B. Mayer Co.

In 1941, Yugoslavia surrendered to Germany during World War II.

In 1961, some 1,500 CIA-trained Cuban exiles launched the disastrous Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in an attempt to topple Fidel Castro, whose forces crushed the incursion by the third day.

In 1964, Geraldine "Jerrie" Mock became the first woman to complete a solo airplane trip around the world as she returned to Columbus, Ohio, after 29 1/2 days in her Cessna 180. Ford Motor Co. unveiled the Mustang at the New York World's Fair. The first game was played at New York's Shea Stadium; the Pittsburgh Pirates defeated the Mets, 4-3.

In 1970, Apollo 13 astronauts James A. Lovell, Fred W. Haise and Jack Swigert splashed down safely in the Pacific, four days after a ruptured oxygen tank crippled their spacecraft while en route to the moon.

In 1972, the Boston Marathon allowed women to compete for the first time; Nina Kuscsik was the first officially recognized women's champion, with a time of 3:10:26.

In 1975, Cambodia's five-year war ended as the capital Phnom Penh fell to the Khmer Rouge, which instituted brutal, radical policies that claimed an estimated 1.7 million lives until the regime was overthrown in 1979.

In 1984, an 11-day police siege began at Libya's embassy in London when an unidentified shooter inside the building fired on a crowd of protesters, killing police officer Yvonne Fletcher. (The Libyans in the embassy were eventually allowed to leave the country as Britain and Libya severed relations.)

In 1986, at London's Heathrow Airport, a bomb was discovered in the bag of Anne-Marie Murphy, a pregnant Irishwoman about to board an El Al jetliner to Israel; she'd been tricked into carrying the bomb by her Jordanian fiance, Nezar Hindawi. The bodies of kidnapped American Peter Kilburn and Britons Philip Padfield and Leigh Douglas were found near Beirut; they had been slain in apparent retaliation for the U.S. raid on Libya.

In 1997, former Israeli president Chaim Herzog (KHY'-ehm HEHRT'-zahg) died in Tel Aviv at age 78.

Ten years ago: A day after the Virginia Tech massacre, President George W. Bush visited the campus, where he told students and teachers at a somber convocation that the nation was praying for them and "there's a power in these prayers." In Rome, a U.S. soldier went on trial in absentia for the shooting death of Italian intelligence agent Nicola Calipari at an Iraqi checkpoint in March 2005. (However, a court later threw out the proceedings against Spc. Mario Lozano, saying Italy had no jurisdiction.) Actress Kitty Carlisle Hart died in New York at age 96.

Five years ago: Riding on the back of a 747 jet, retired space shuttle Discovery traveled from Cape Canaveral, Florida, to Chantilly, Virginia, to be installed in its new home: the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum annex near Washington Dulles Airport in Northern Virginia. Jamie Moyer, at age 49, became the oldest pitcher ever to win a major league contest as the Colorado Rockies beat the San Diego Padres 5-3.

One year ago: Brazil's lower house of Congress voted to impeach President Dilma Rousseff, who repeatedly argued that the push against her was a "coup." (Rousseff was removed the following August.) Pennsylvania became the 24th state to legalize a comprehensive medical marijuana program as Gov. Tom Wolf signed the bill into law. Actress Doris Roberts, who played the tart-tongued, endlessly meddling mother on CBS' "Everybody Loves Raymond," died at age 90.

Today's Birthdays: Actor David Bradley is 75. Composer-musician Jan Hammer (yahn HAH'-mur) is 69. Actress Olivia Hussey is 66. Actor Clarke Peters is 65. Rock singer-musician Pete Shelley (Buzzcocks) is 62. Rapper Afrika Bambaataa is 60. Actor Sean Bean is 58. Former NFL quarterback Boomer Esiason is 56. Actor Joel Murray is 55. Rock singer Maynard James Keenan is 53. Actress Lela Rochon (LEE'-lah rohn-SHAHN') is 53. Actor William Mapother is 52. Actress Leslie Bega is 50. Actor Henry Ian Cusick is 50. Actress Kimberly Elise is 50. Singer Liz Phair is 50. Rapper-actor Redman is 47. Actress Jennifer Garner is 45. Country musician Craig Anderson is 44. Singer Victoria Adams Beckham is 43. Actress-singer Lindsay Korman is 39. Actor Tate Ellington is 38. Actor Nicholas D'Agosto (TV: "Trial & Error") is 37. Actor Charlie Hofheimer is 36. Actress Rooney Mara is 32. Actress Jacqueline MacInnes Wood is 30. Actor Paulie Litt is 22. Actress Dee Dee Davis is 21.

***Thought for Today: "A happiness that is sought for ourselves alone can never be found; for a happiness that is diminished by being shared is not big enough to make us happy." - Thomas Merton, American poet and author (1915-1968).***

## Got a story to share?

Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

Here are some suggestions:

- **Spousal support** - How your spouse helped in supporting your work during your AP career.

- **My most unusual story** - tell us about an unusual, off the wall story that you covered.

- **"A silly mistake that you make"** - a chance to 'fess up with a memorable mistake in your journalistic career.

- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.

- **Volunteering** - benefit your colleagues by sharing volunteer stories - with ideas on such work they can do themselves.

- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?

- **Connecting "selfies"** - a word and photo self-profile of you and your career, and what you are doing today. Both for new members and those who have been with us a while.

- **Life after AP** for those of you who have moved on to another job or profession.

- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

**Paul Stevens**

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