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Connecting -- August 22, 2018

1 message

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Connecting

August 22, 2018

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning!

When his ashes were placed in the Memorial Wall at Arlington National Cemetery, **Richard Pyle** became at least the fourth employee of The Associated Press to be laid to rest at the nation's most famous cemetery.

The others were **Keith Fuller**, president and general manager of the AP from 1976 to 1985, who died in 2002; **Frank Cormier**, who covered five presidents during his tenure as White House correspondent, who died in 1994, and **Edward Bomar**, bureau chief in Baltimore and Manila and Washington newsman, who died in 1953. (Bomar served in the Navy in WWI and in the Army in WWII.)

AP executive **John Mulroy**, director of international communications, was among the victims of the 1988 crash of Pan American Flight 103 that was brought down by a terrorist bomb over Lockerbie, Scotland. While he is not buried at Arlington, he is among the 259 people aboard the plane, and 11 on the ground, who are recognized at a Memorial Cairn at Arlington dedicated to victims of the bombing.



In 1986 a plaque honoring more than 200 war correspondents killed while on duty was unveiled at Arlington, and the photo above shows four AP journalists who were among those present for the ceremony. From left, they are **George McArthur**, who covered the Korean and Vietnam wars for the AP; **George Esper**, Saigon bureau chief for 10 years; **Max Desfor**, a Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer who served 45 years with the AP, and **Joe Frazier**, former Central American correspondent whose wife Linda, a reporter for the Tico Times in San Jose, Costa Rica, was killed in a 1984 bomb explosion during a news conference held by a Nicaraguan rebel leader. (Thanks to **Francesca Pitaro**, AP Corporate Archives, for sharing.)

Today's Connecting opens with further memories of Richard Pyle.

Paul

Richard Pyle remembered by his colleagues



Retired AP director of photos Hal Buell (left) and Washington AP photographer J. Scott Applewhite shooting photos at Richard Pyle's memorial. Photo/Claudia DiMartino

Hal Buell (Email) - At the celebration Monday of Richard Pyle's life much was said about his vast experience as a foreign correspondent, special attention to the years he spent covering the Vietnam War. No surprise there. The impact of that conflict remains with us even now and those who covered it share an unbreakable bond.

Richard was also a good, old-fashioned New York City reporter with a flair for language that separated him from many who went to the city streets for a bit of insight into the human condition. I offer a few of Richard's story leads that featured his special insight into the daily news flow wherever he happened to be assigned.

In July 1999 Pyle wrote:

New York (AP) At the stately 120 year old church where Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis often found solace, friends and relatives were attending a quiet Mass today to remember her son, John Fitzgerald Kennedy Jr and his wife.

The couple had died in an air crash.

And this New York January 2008, story lead about a tree that scientists hope to clone:

New York (AP) Squat, homely, dwarfed by stately Oaks and Poplars and unnoticed by the tourists passing in horse-drawn carriages, it's a tree that only birds and nut-hungry squirrels could covet.

Or in June 1977, when the assassin of Martin Luther King was captured in a pile of leaves after escaping from prison, Pyle was on the story:

Brushy Mountain, Tenn. (AP) James Earl Ray was tracked down early today by a brace of bloodhounds named Sandy and Little Red ending a desperate 54 ½ hour flight for freedom from prison.

Or a story about the Empire State building's birthday:

New York, NY (AP) Born in the Great Depression, it has weathered economic hardships, world war, labor strikes, murder, terrorist fears and even a plane crash.

And how about a bit of light hearted pop culture, March 2007:

New York, NY (AP) Holy Homicide, Batman! Captain America is dead!

And from the piers of New York when the Queen Mary II arrived in NY on its maiden voyage:

New York (AP) Gigantic it is. Titanic it is not.

Richard truly had a way with stories and the words he chose to tell them.

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Marcus Eliason ([Email](#)) - One of the many nice things about Monday at Richard Pyle's inurnment was a reunion with two great friends during my London years - correspondent Edie Lederer and our COB, Myron Belkind.

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Frank Eltman (Email) - Former AP Long Island correspondent now working as a regional editor on the West Desk in Phoenix: I worked with Richard Pyle for more than a decade in the New York bureau and consider my friendship with him to be one of the greatest honors of my career. He was always willing to share his vast wisdom and experience, was quick to praise, and equally quick to correct and guide his colleagues. One of my fondest memories of Richard was his wickedly funny sense of humor. We shared many laughs while dealing with some very serious topics and challenges.

Those who worked with him had the privilege of associating with one of the true gentlemen of journalism.

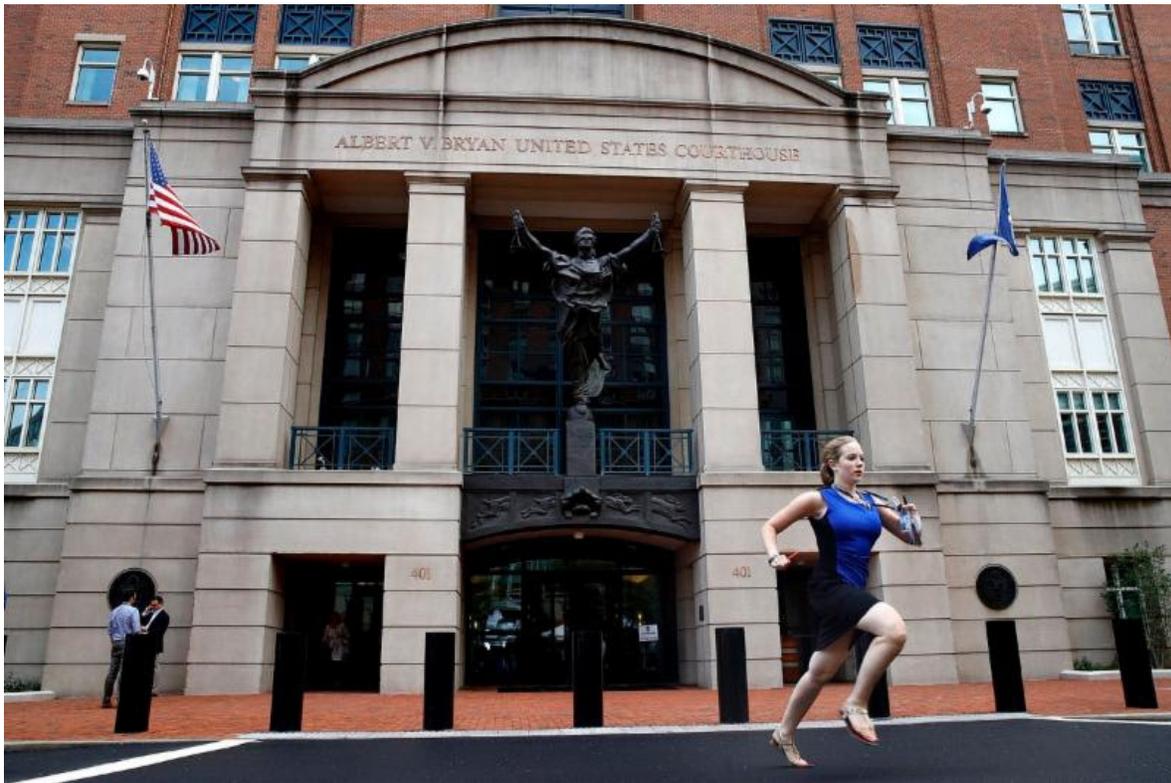
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Edie Lederer ([Email](#)) - In this photo taken by Bob Reid you will see Richard's widow, Brenda Smiley Pyle, wearing the dress she wore at her wedding to Richard in Cyprus, I believe in 1984. Sitting next to her is Derek Johnson, a close friend of Brenda's and her late brother. Then there's me and Charlie Hanley. In the back row is Terry Anderson, who told me he introduced Brenda and Richard at the Foreign Correspondents Club in Tokyo. Myron Belkind is also in the photo along with other friends. Army Chaplain Matthew Whitehead is presenting the flag that the box containing Richard's ashes rested on to Brenda.

The ceremony at Arlington cemetery was a well-deserved tribute from the AP's far-flung family, many non-AP colleagues from Vietnam, and longtime friends to a consummate reporter, beautiful writer and life-long advocate for truth and fairness who loved The Associated Press and the lifetime of opportunities and friendships that it gave him.

AP Photo of the Day



Cassie Semyon, a 21-year-old NBC News intern, runs out of federal court in Alexandria on Tuesday as Paul Manafort trial jury deliberations are announced. Jacquelyn Martin/AP Photo

Connecting mailbox

A pet peeve involving the word 'none'

Henry Bradsher ([Email](#)) - On the subject of data being singular or plural, one of my pet peeves involves the word "none." It's a contraction of "no one" or "not one." I contend that it should, therefore, be singular. But, usually, not one person is paying attention to my complaint. One usually sees "none are."

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Confession Booth: San Francisco in the Wild '70s

Michael Doan (Email) - Forgive me, for I have sinned. As retirees, we can admit past mistakes without fear of getting fired. And the statute of limitations has probably run out.

At the San Francisco AP bureau, I was going through the mail in 1970, a time when the city was the center of revolutionary activity. The first letter I opened as day editor was a note from Bernardine Dohrn of the Weather Underground, who threatened some sort of violence—a bomb, or what I can't remember. Immediately, we called the police and the FBI and they came and got the letter and presumably checked out the threatened area.

Relieved, I finally opened more mail. Another letter (possibly the next one) was a scrawled, awkwardly worded veiled threat against the president of South Korea, who was visiting the city. There was no clear promise to shoot him, but there was some reference to his life being in danger.

This was obviously the work of a nut. And I had had enough excitement for one morning. So I filed the letter to the clipboard of source material.

I got a call at 6:00 that night from someone reading through source material. Did you ever follow up on this? "No. I didn't think it was important." The police and FBI were called again and security was ramped up for that country's president.

I'm sorry, but I can handle only one terrorist threat a day. (I was never stationed in the Middle East.)

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One way to resolve contradictory stories

Joe Galu (Email) - The editors at the Troy (NY) Record told me about a day during the Korean Conflict/War when the AP and UPI had wildly contradictory stories about a military engagement -- a sensational victory in one and a disastrous defeat in the other. The Troy Record ran the stories side-by-side on the front page under a headline asking "are they reporting on the same war?" Both wire services were furious. The Troy Record editors shrugged their shoulders.

But then again, there are still arguments about the Tet Offensive.

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Writing on the legacy of Kofi Annan

Edie Lederer ([Email](#)) - I was shocked and gutted by Kofi Annan's death. I covered him as secretary-general from 1998 until his second term ended in 2006, and I saw him whenever he returned, and at a number of UN events and dinners, including in the last six months. I think after writing this story for AP on Kofi I've said what's important about his legacy and his concerns about the current state of the world.

Kofi Annan's legacy lives on at the UN



By: Edith Lederer

His focus of fighting for equality and rights is a big part of the world body's agenda.

Kofi Annan left the United Nations far more committed than it had been to combating poverty, promoting equality and fighting for human rights.

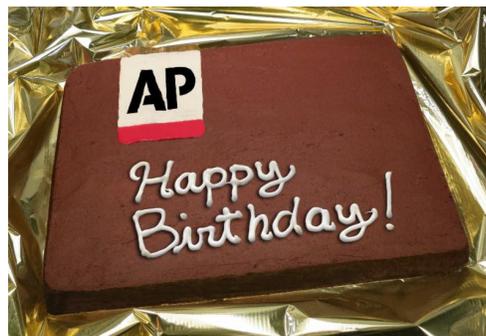
Until his death at age 80 at the weekend he was pushing for nations to work together to solve problems and worried about nationalism.

As Secretary-General of the UN from 1997 to 2006, Annan saw as his greatest achievements the programmes and policies he put in place to reduce inequality within and between countries, to combat infectious diseases and to promote rights and protect civilians from war crimes.

He launched the UN Millennium Development Goals in 2000 to cut extreme poverty by half, promote equality for women, ensure every child has a primary school education, reduce maternal and child mortality, and halt the spread of Aids by 2015.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



To

Jenny Volanakis - jvolanakis@gmail.com

Welcome to Connecting



Tracy Johnke - tracy.johnke@gmail.com

Christopher Lehourites - clehourites@gmail.com

World Photography Day 2018: Some iconic photographs over the years



The Falling Man on 9/11 AP Photo/Richard Drew

The Indian Express

"A photograph is a moment - when you press the button, it will never come back," said René Burri. The Swiss photographer, who documented several political, cultural events and historical events in the second half of the 20th century, captures the essence of photography in this quote. The moment might be fleeting, but once photographed it gets frozen for a lifetime. Photographs have the potential to evoke memories and take us back to the past. To mark the importance of pictures, every year on August 19, World Photography Day is celebrated. On this day, those who share the passion for photography come together and observe this day. Many, all across the world, commemorate this day by capturing stills and spreading joy through them.

The day also serves as an inspiration for many to take up photography as a profession or to pursue it as a zealous hobby.

On the occasion of World Photography Day, we bring you some of the most iconic photos by different photographers. The list, however, is in no way exhaustive but these works continue to impress.

Read more [here](#).

Today in History - August 22, 2018



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, Aug. 22, the 234th day of 2018. There are 131 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

Watch Now

VIDEO: Catching up with the Backstreet Boys live on 'GMA'

Catching up with the Backstreet Boys live on 'GMA'

On August 22, 1972, President Richard Nixon was nominated for a second term of office by the Republican National Convention in Miami Beach.

On this date:

In 1787, inventor John Fitch demonstrated his steamboat on the Delaware River to delegates from the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia.

In 1851, the schooner America outraced more than a dozen British vessels off the English coast to win a trophy that came to be known as the America's Cup.

In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln responded to Horace Greeley's call for more drastic steps to abolish slavery; Lincoln replied that his priority was saving the Union, but he also repeated his personal wish "that all men everywhere could be free."

In 1910, Japan annexed Korea, which remained under Japanese control until the end of World War II.

In 1932, the British Broadcasting Corp. conducted its first experimental television broadcast, using a 30-line mechanical system.

In 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Vice President Richard Nixon were nominated for second terms in office by the Republican National Convention in San Francisco.

In 1972, John Wojtowicz (WAHT'-uh-witz) and Salvatore Naturile took seven employees hostage at a Chase Manhattan Bank branch in Brooklyn, New York, during a botched robbery; the siege, which ended with Wojtowicz's arrest and Naturile's killing by the FBI, inspired the 1975 movie "Dog Day Afternoon."

In 1978, President Jomo Kenyatta, a leading figure in Kenya's struggle for independence, died; Vice President Daniel arap Moi was sworn in as acting president.

In 1985, 55 people died when fire broke out aboard a British Airtours charter jet on a runway at Manchester Airport in England.

In 1986, Kerr-McGee Corp. agreed to pay the estate of the late Karen Silkwood \$1.38 million, settling a 10-year-old nuclear contamination lawsuit. The Rob Reiner coming-of-age film "Stand By Me" was put into wide release by Columbia Pictures.

In 1989, Black Panthers co-founder Huey P. Newton was shot to death in Oakland, California. (Gunman Tyrone Robinson was later sentenced to 32 years to life in prison.)

In 1992, on the second day of the Ruby Ridge siege in Idaho, an FBI sharpshooter killed Vicki Weaver, the wife of white separatist Randy Weaver (the sharpshooter later said he was targeting the couple's friend Kevin Harris, and didn't see Vicki Weaver).

Ten years ago: Russia said it had pulled back forces from Georgia in accordance with an EU-brokered cease-fire agreement. Usain (yoo-SAYN') Bolt helped Jamaica win the 400-meter relay final in 37.10 seconds for his third gold medal and third world record of the Beijing Olympics. Bryan Clay won the decathlon. Phil Dalhausser and Todd Rogers beat Brazil in the men's beach volleyball championship game.

Five years ago: Egypt's ousted leader Hosni Mubarak was released from prison and transported to a military hospital in a Cairo suburb to be held under house arrest. A day after being sentenced to up to 35 years in prison for leaking secrets, Army Pfc. Bradley Manning, in a statement to NBC's "Today" show, announced he intended to live as a woman named Chelsea and undergo hormone treatment. A mysterious glitch halted trading on the Nasdaq for three hours.

One year ago: Protesters and police clashed outside a convention center in Phoenix where President Donald Trump had just wrapped up his first political rally since the violence in Charlottesville, Virginia; police fired pepper spray at crowds after someone apparently lobbed rocks and bottles at officers. A military commander reported that Iraqi troops had reached the first urban areas of the northern town of Tal Afar on the third day of an operation to retake it from the Islamic State group.

Today's Birthdays: Broadcast journalist Morton Dean is 83. Author Annie Proulx (proo) is 83. Baseball Hall of Famer Carl Yastrzemski is 79. Actress Valerie Harper

is 79. Pro Football Hall of Fame coach Bill Parcells is 77. Writer-producer David Chase is 73. CBS newsman Steve Kroft is 73. Actress Cindy Williams is 71. Pop musician David Marks is 70. International Swimming Hall of Famer Diana Nyad is 69. Baseball Hall of Famer Paul Molitor is 62. Rock musician Vernon Reid is 60. Country singer Ricky Lynn Gregg is 59. Country singer Collin Raye is 58. Actress Regina Taylor is 58. Rock singer Roland Orzabal (Tears For Fears) is 57. Rock musician Debbi Peterson (The Bangles) is 57. Rock musician Gary Lee Conner (Screaming Trees) is 56. Singer Tori Amos is 55. Country singer Mila Mason is 55. Rhythm-and-blues musician James DeBarge is 55. International Tennis Hall of Famer Mats Wilander is 54. Actress Brooke Dillman is 52. Rapper GZA (JHZ'-ah)/The Genius is 52. Actor Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje (ah-day-WAH'-lay ah-kih-NOY'-yay ah-BAH'-jay) is 51. Actor Ty Burrell is 51. Celebrity chef Giada DeLaurentiis is 48. Actress Melinda Page Hamilton is 47. Actor Rick Yune is 47. Rock musician Paul Doucette (Matchbox Twenty) is 46. Rap-reggae singer Beenie Man is 45. Singer Howie Dorough (Backstreet Boys) is 45. Comedian-actress Kristen Wiig is 45. Actress Jenna Leigh Green is 44. Rock musician Bo Koster is 44. Rock musician Dean Back (Theory of a Deadman) is 43. Talk show host James Corden is 40. Rock musician Jeff Stinco (Simple Plan) is 40. Actor Brandon Adams is 39. Actress Aya Sumika is 38. Actor Ari Stidham is 26.

Thought for Today: "Life does not give itself to one who tries to keep all its advantages at once. I have often thought morality may perhaps consist solely in the courage of making a choice." - Leon Blum, French statesman (1872-1950).

Got a story or photos 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:

- **Second chapters** - You finished a great career. Now tell us about your second (and third and fourth?) chapters of life.

- **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.

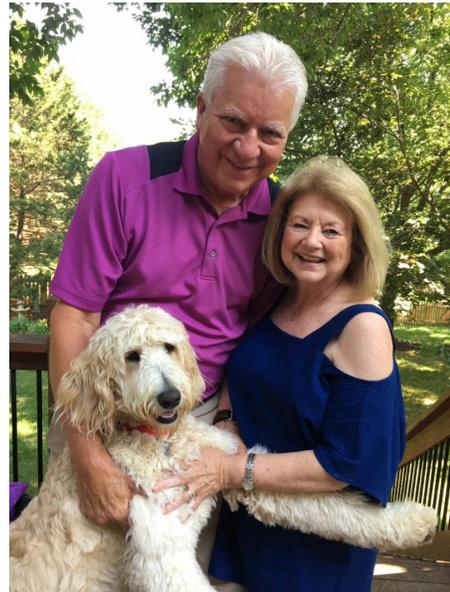
- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.

- **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.

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



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