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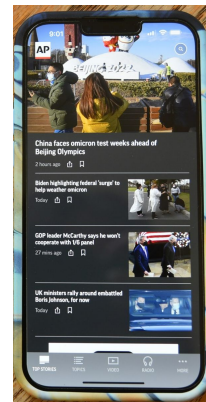
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Connecting

March 9, 2022

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning on this March 9, 2022,

For the past few days, the many friends and AP colleagues of **Walter Mears** have worked through their sorrow over his death to share favorite memories of the Associated Press journalist who was one of the greatest political writers in history.

Now it is his family's turn to share some favorite memories of Walter with you.

We bring you those memories and some favorite family photos in The Final Word, perhaps appropriately named for this purpose.

Walter's daughters [Stephanie Stich](#) and [Susan Mears](#) obviously inherited their dad's writing genes in the stories they wrote and gathered from other family members. The family's spirits have been buoyed by the wonderful letters, phone calls, emails and Connecting posts since he died last Thursday at his apartment in Chapel Hill, N.C., at the age of 87.

“The Mears family appreciates the loving remembrances of our dad, uncle, brother and grandpa, Walter,” said Stephanie and Susan. “Hearing his impact on others soothes our grief and lifts our spirits. We treasure your words and are certain dad is honored.”

Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

Returning to our offices on April 12

A note to AP staff Tuesday from Daisy Veerasingham, President and CEO, and Jessica Bruce, Senior Vice President, Human Resources & Corporate Communications:

After nearly two years of remote work and navigating a global pandemic, we are happy to share that we plan to return to regular work in AP’s offices around the world on Tuesday, April 12.

Upon our return, we will implement the hybrid model announced last summer, with employees working from the office on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. AP decided on Tuesdays and Wednesdays because they were the preferred choice in our survey of staff and managers. A third in-office day will be added later, and we will provide at least 30 days of notice before this takes effect. The hybrid policy applies to office-based staff who work during regular weekday business hours. Staff whose job functions necessitate in-office work will continue to work in the office each workday.

As we’ve said, we firmly believe there is great value in bringing colleagues together for the in-person collaboration that helps us do our best work. We will try to be as flexible as possible at all locations at the outset as we adjust to returning.

The hybrid approach is AP’s new normal. There are no plans to require all employees to be back in the office five days a week. We believe this approach embraces the clear desire by many employees for more flexibility while also ensuring we continue to provide outstanding journalism and services to our customers.

The health and safety of our staff has been and continues to be our top priority. It is why we continue to strongly encourage all employees to get vaccinated against COVID-19 if the vaccine is available where you are.

U.S. staff will be required to be fully vaccinated and must upload their proof of vaccination by our April 12 return date. More information can be found on InsideAP.

Returning to the office will be an adjustment. To ensure a smooth transition, we encourage you to visit the office in the coming weeks to acclimate to your routine and setup.

We will host departmental town halls this week to answer your questions about returning to our offices. You will receive invitations today. Please feel free to submit

questions ahead of time by emailing equations@ap.org. AP's hybrid policy and frequently asked questions are available on InsideAP.

We want to sincerely thank you for your patience and feedback as we've worked to develop these plans. Thank you for rising to the occasion during these tumultuous two years. We have a lot to be proud of and look forward to as we return to our offices in a new, flexible way.

We look forward to seeing many of you in person beginning next month.

More of your memories of Walter Mears

Norm Abelson - The Walter Mears I knew, more than 60 years ago, was only a telephone voice I heard reporting from the Vermont legislature.

Mears was at his first Associated Press assignment, and I was at my first full-time AP gig at the Concord, N.H., office.

My 91-year-old memory is dim about any further details, except - perhaps surprisingly - that I seem to recall the timbre of his friendly voice dictating a story, which I would edit and punch out on the teletype. Why this set-up? My guess is that AP had not yet set up an office in Montpelier.

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Jim Baltzelle - A vacation memory: I had the honor of sharing a condo with Walter Mears and AP friends on a few golf weekends. Others have commented on Walter's brand in whiskey. He also had worthwhile ideas about coffee. One morning in 2016, he suggested we use the condo's entire prepackaged supply for one pot, which just he and I drank. Later that day, Walter would swing from thick mountain bramble and bloody his arm. He emerged, fuming, shirt and arm streaked in red. When I asked him how he was, I immediately got an earful. Being with Walter Mears was being with greatness in its fine details.



(The photo shows Walter taking a break in June 2016 at the Wintergreen Resort in Wintergreen, Virginia. Photo by Jim Baltzelle.)

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Linda Deutsch - Every now and then Facebook memory photos pop up at the strangest times. This week I opened my Facebook page to a photo of me with two AP legends, Jonathan Wolman and Walter Mears. We were all dressed up for a Gridiron Dinner in DC in 2016. The guys in white tie and tails. So elegant.

Sadly they are both gone now. But the photo along with the great tributes pouring in for Walter threw me back to that horrible night in 1968 when I first met this AP legend. Yes, it was the night that Robert Kennedy was assassinated in Los Angeles. Walter and his colleague Jules Loh, an AP writer known as one of “the poets” for his lyrical writing style, had been traveling on Kennedy’s campaign bus. When they came running into the AP bureau after the catastrophe they were both in a state of anger and despair.

“What the hell is a Sirhan Sirhan?” Jules screamed in a state of outrage. They were having trouble grasping the horror of the events. It seems that Jules had a birthday while they were traveling and Bobby had presented him with a birthday cake on the bus that very day. I thought his face was tear stained. Walter looked as if he was in shock.

Nevertheless, these two consummate pros sat down at typewriters and began composing stories. They continued to work all night. I was the newbie in the bureau, barely a year with the AP. Most of that night was a blur but I never forgot Walter’s display of grace under pressure. He was the blueprint for journalistic excellence in every way.

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Andy Lippman - There always comes an evening when I've finished a book, or don't feel like starting another. So, I sometimes reach for my "go-to" book "**Deadlines Past**" by Walter Mears. It's a comfort - not that I could write as fast as Walter, or cover many of the events he did in his career.

But it brings me back to the days when I did race for the phone with a story or pound out a piece on a typewriter. And it was always a treat to hear Walter Mears tell a story in a way that you could almost hear. It is like warm milk for the mind.

I also used his book-co-authored with John Chancellor-when I helped students at the local high school newspaper with their writing.

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Robert Wielaard - Years ago, on a visit to Brussels, Walter Mears told newsman Raf Casert and me, at dinner in a tony downtown restaurant, this campaign trail story:

In Iowa or some other state, Mears had dinner with AP types in a small-town restaurant.

Also having dinner there was R.W. Apple and some NYTimes people.

Mears said he asked the waiter to send a bottle of total bum wine – Thunderbird, I think – to Apple and his party, with Mears’ heart-felt compliments!

Half a minute later, said Walter, he heard Apple loudly telling the waiter: “Send this back to Mears. He knows I don’t drink this sh*t!”

An invitation to join virtual panel on Conflict Journalism set for Friday

[Tom Graves](#) - I'd like to invite interested Connecting readers to a virtual panel on conflict journalism this Friday, March 11, sponsored by the California State Library and the Joe Rosenthal Chapter of the USMC Combat Correspondents Association, and entitled WHEN THE PRESS GOES TO WAR.

When we planned the panel for this Friday, we did not know Vladimir Putin was planning to invade Ukraine. The timing of his horrific acts makes the Panel all the more relevant and perhaps even life-saving.

I've learned that freelance journalists with no experience, no plan, team or resources, are heading to Ukraine to cover their first war. We hope they all return safely.

Our panelists have been to war or work with journalists in the war zone every day. Journalism students joining our Zoom call on Friday will have a valuable opportunity to hear from veteran journalists. While not a survival course, information they learn Friday may help keep them safe in the future.

Just as Joe Rosenthal risked his life to cover the Pacific War for the Associated Press, journalists continue to put themselves in harm's way to send the news back to us at home. The reason for hosting the panel was to make the public more aware of the important role conflict journalists perform. Now, it seems, we will also be enlightening young journalists of the dangers of their profession.

We invite you to join the Zoom call this Friday, March 11, 1:00-2:30pm Pacific Time. Reserve now at the link below so you won't be disappointed.

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The Joe Rosenthal Chapter of the USMC Combat Correspondents Association and California State Library will host a virtual panel on conflict journalism WHEN THE PRESS GOES TO WAR, March 11 from 2-3:30 p.m. Pacific Time. The panel will feature photojournalists and other voices on why journalists report from the battlefield and other dangerous locations, and why their work is important to the public. The war in Ukraine has made this talk all the more relevant and timely.

Since before the American Civil War in the 1860s, journalists have covered wars, rebellions and natural disasters, putting themselves in danger to help the public understand conflict and the world around them. The cost is undeniable. Nearly 1,400 journalists were killed between 1992 and 2020, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists. Others were injured, arrested, kidnapped or missing.

Panelists include:

Nicole Frugé - Photojournalist and Photography Director of the San Francisco Chronicle

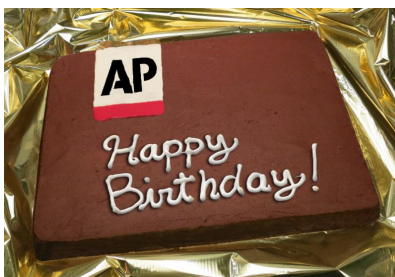
Julio Cortez - Associated Press Staff Photographer

Lucy Wescott - Emergencies Director, Committee to Protect Journalists

Lauren Katzenberg – New York Times International Editor (moderator)

Attendance for this virtual event is limited. Register now by clicking [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



[David Kennerly](#)

Welcome to Connecting



[Mike Allen](#)

[Jim Luther](#)

[Douglas Mine](#)

[Carol Riordan](#)

[Derek Underwood](#)

Stories of interest

The New York Times Pulls Its News Staff From Russia

(New York Times)

By Michael M. Grynbaum

The New York Times said on Tuesday that it was temporarily removing its journalists from Russia in the wake of harsh new legislation that effectively outlaws independent reporting on the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

“Russia’s new legislation seeks to criminalize independent, accurate news reporting about the war against Ukraine. For the safety and security of our editorial staff working in the region, we are moving them out of the country for now,” a spokeswoman for The Times, Danielle Rhoades Ha, said in a statement.

“We look forward to them returning as soon as possible while we monitor the application of the new law,” Ms. Rhoades Ha said. “We will continue our live, robust coverage of the war and our rigorous reporting on Russia’s offensive in Ukraine and these attempts to stifle independent journalism.”

Earlier, some major English-language news organizations, including Bloomberg News, suspended their journalistic operations in Russia in response to the new law passed by President Vladimir V. Putin’s government. Under the legislation, journalists who describe the war as a “war” could be sentenced to prison.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Mark Mittelstadt, Harry Dunphy.

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NY Times images of slain Ukrainian civilians show war’s toll (AP)

By DAVID BAUDER

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York Times’ front-page photo Monday of the grisly aftermath of a Russian attack on civilians in Ukraine offers a reminder of how journalists try to weigh the sensibilities of customers with the need to illustrate the reality of war.

The picture, taken by photographer Lynsey Addario, shows Ukrainian soldiers tending to the bloodied bodies of four people moments after a mortar exploded near them.

The newspaper, when it tweeted out a story about the incident late Sunday, warned people that it contained graphic images. Yet the photo was also used prominently on the Times' website and took up four of five columns on the top of Monday's newspaper, where there is no chance for such a warning.

Cliff Levy, deputy managing editor of The Times, tweeted that Monday was one of the most important front pages of the war because of Addario's photo.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Lindel Hutson.

-0-

'Am I Dying?': Daily Beast Reporters Shot in Ukraine Tell Harrowing Survival Story (Daily Beast)

Stefan Weichert

OKHTYRKA, Ukraine—It was quiet near the front lines in the city of Okhtyrka before the artillery attack. My colleague, photographer Emil Filtenborg, and I had arrived in the afternoon to report from a kindergarten that had been bombed by the Russian army the previous day, leaving several children wounded. Despite the terror of that incident, Feb. 26 had so far been more peaceful, at least enough for residents to be out walking in the streets.

I was walking back to fetch our car after talking to Ukrainian soldiers at a checkpoint when, suddenly, a deafening blast shook the ground. A Russian artillery shell had struck nearby.

Immediately, I ran towards Emil, who was standing near the car waiting for me. We jumped in and drove a few hundred meters before stopping briefly to decide on the safest exit route out of the city.

Read more [here](#).

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Photojournalists Attacked by Russian Ambush in Ukraine (PetaPixel)

JARON SCHNEIDER

A Sky News team has shared a harrowing account of their experience in Ukraine. After attempting to get back to the center of Kyiv, the group was ambushed by Russian soldiers and attacked, even after identifying as press.

In a detailed firsthand account, Sky News chief correspondent Stuart Ramsay describes the situation leading up to and the aftermath of the attack that targeted him, his team, and his camera operator Richie Mockler. The entire encounter paints a picture of a hectic and chaotic situation on the ground where areas swap between safe and dangerous in a matter of hours.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Doug Pizac.

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PDN to switch to mail to make deliveries more reliable

By Peninsula Daily News

The Peninsula Daily News will be delivered to every subscriber every publication day starting at the end of the month.

It will be by mail.

Beginning with the March 28 edition, subscribers will receive their newspaper in their mailboxes, whatever time of day that arrives for them. Subscribers with the PDN's sister paper, the Sequim Gazette, also will see delivery switch to mail that week.

"We believe this partnership with the U.S. Postal Service is a win-win," said Terry Ward, publisher of the PDN, Sequim Gazette and Forks Forum.

Read more [here](#). Shared by John Brewer, Doug Pizac.

The Final Word

Favorite memories of Walter Mears – from his loving family



A family photo, taken at Emerald Isle, North Carolina in 2015. Back row, from left to right: Madeline Stich, Martin Stich, Nathaniel Stich, Tristan Wiemer, Aidan Wiemer, Brad Weimer, Fran Mears with Brynne Wiemer on her lap. Front row, left to right: Stephanie Stich, Walter Mears and Susan Mears.

From [Stephanie Stich](#) (Walter's Daughter)

I'd like to share one memory from Walter as dad and two of Walter as Grandpa.

When Susan and I were little, whenever dad was on Meet the Press, we would be required to watch. He felt it was important for us to be informed and to understand what he did while he was away so much. There would be a quiz when he got home. We were the only politically aware students in our elementary schools.

If anyone played golf with dad, they witnessed his "penchant for aggravation." When my daughter, Madeline, was a toddler we went for a walk with Grandpa and Madeline's brother, Nathaniel. Halfway home, she lost her mind amid a toddler meltdown. She sat down in the middle of the road to pitch her fit. Dad calmly sat down next to her and told her he would wait as long as she needed. He told her he understood how it felt to be so angry you just have to sit in the road. He carried a relaxed Madeline home a few minutes later.

My son, Nathaniel, loved trains. Since Grandpa lived in D.C., Nathaniel loved visiting and riding the metro. Grandpa would ride the metro with Nathaniel for hours, stopping only for ice cream. One visit, dad was quite ill with a stomach bug. He claimed to be feeling better and refused to let Nathaniel down. They planned to spend the day riding the metro as usual. Dad's wife, Fran, wisely provided dad with several zip lock bags and trash bags. Dad became violently ill during the train ride and made use of the bags. He did his best to convince Nathaniel all was OK. When they made it home, rather than being upset, Nathaniel was thrilled because "Grandpa got them a train car all to themselves!"



Susan Mears – This Halloween photo with Dad and Fran as Frankenstein Twins was taken in 2017. Bumblebee is Aidan Wiemer, Knight is Tristan Wiemer, Harry Potter is Brynne Adelaide Wiemer. I love this photo as it is the last picture we have with Fran pre-cancer and it shows Dad throwing himself into being a wonderful grandparent with the same gusto he gave to journalism. Once he retired, his grandchildren were his career. He even played golf with my sons Aidan & Tristan Wiemer without cursing or throwing a club, which he resumed immediately after they left the course.

From Susan Mears (Walter's Daughter)

My parents, Walter & Joyce Mears, split season Caps tickets with another family. It was rare that we had family time so, these home games were welcome celebrations. As my dad was gone so often for the campaign trail, he had me convinced he was a Caps player needed for away games. My best friend in kindergarten finally broke the news to me that my dad was, "just a reporter." Given my dad told his sister Carolyn he wanted a career in hockey but settled for journalism, I think my preschool beliefs were fun for Dad.

Dad, Walter Mears, was away more often than home. It was such a big deal when he came home, we created celebratory banners and draped streamers to celebrate his returns.

My father, Walter Mears, was off on the campaign trail most of my childhood. Back in the 70s and 80s, it was easy to pick up passengers from National Airport. We did it so often, I believed that was where my dad lived. It was a few years before my mom, Joyce Mears educated me about a reporter's life.

My friends thought, living in DC, my father was a "Spook" AKA spy. No other parents were gone so often as political reporters and CIA Agents.

My sister, Stephanie Mears Stich, and I often were told to forgo Sunday school for the altar of Sunday morning political shows. Each time our dad was on "Meet the Press," he came home with quizzes to ensure we watched. My sister memorized a few key points to cover us both. As I was four or five when this started, I relied upon my sister's memory. My attention span was geared towards Sesame Street over K Street at the time.

Once we moved from Fairfax to McLean, I was the new kid at Franklin Sherman Elementary School. Dad helped me gain street cred by volunteering to chaperone the boys' cabin on a field trip to Camp Highroads. In that cabin was the year older, much crushed upon, John Dickerson. John thanked me for getting my dad to replace a teacher as chaperone, which was witnessed by John's extended fan club. My father's rules for the cabin were simple, "Don't wake me up or get caught." The girls cabin was indeed infiltrated by noisy boys but nothing was traced back to Dad. John went on to follow in his mother's footsteps. Two prominent DC news people shared one cabin at Camp Highroads in the 1980s. Perhaps they should hang a plaque.

From Rachel Mears Geanious (Walter's Niece, Daughter of William Mears)

One of the moments that stands out for me was when we went to visit Uncle Walter in New York, I think we were driving across the Brooklyn Bridge when he said, "here is one of the things you can do in NY", and then held his hand on the horn for a whole minute.



Jennifer Mears Hinojosa - My wedding was at The Chateaux in Broomfield, Colo., just north of Denver. It was July 30, 1999, and this is one of my favorite pictures. While members of the Mears family are not often ones to cut loose, I remember Uncle Walter getting lost in the moment and dancing like no one was watching with one of my sister's friends.

From [Jennifer Mears Hinojosa](#) (Walter's Niece, Daughter of William Mears)

It is with great love and admiration that I recall Uncle Walter. He was a source of inspiration for me, leading me to Middlebury College and eventually to The AP. I was not only Uncle Walter's niece, but I became his colleague. It was really a dream come true. I remember, as a child, seeing the black-and-white picture of Uncle Walter on "Meet the Press" proudly displayed on Grammie and Grandpa's wall at their home on Lake Winnepesaukee and thinking, "One day, maybe I will be a reporter, too."

It wasn't always easy having such a revered journalist as my uncle. I remember when I started at the Denver's AP Bureau I was known simply as "Walter's niece." It was nice, but it was also a challenge; I needed to earn my credentials on my own. At least one time, I took that a little too far. I remember in the early 1990s when Uncle Walter came to Denver. I believe we were covering Dan Quayle. I looked for my uncle to say hello, but when I saw him furiously typing away, I did not want to interrupt. Back at the bureau, my photographer delivered a handwritten note to me from Uncle Walter telling me he was never too busy for me and next time to "come say hello."

Uncle Walter was a great source of support. He and I talked and corresponded before I took the job in Denver and while I didn't often hear from him directly regarding my work, I later learned that he was watching my progress. He would send updates to my parents. Lou Boccardi, president of the AP, attached a handwritten note on AP letterhead to one of my stories that had made the national wire, reading "WRM - In case you didn't see. Lou". Uncle Walter once set up a dinner meeting for me with John Chancellor at The Brown Palace Hotel in Denver. It was touching to see how much Uncle Walter cared about me professionally.

Personally, he also was something special. My brother remembered how Uncle Walter was always joking around and being irreverent. My memories are the same. I loved hearing him trade quips with my father. I remember this one instance at a family Thanksgiving at my Aunt Carolyn's house in Pennsylvania. We were all sitting at a long table, my father and his family, Aunt Carolyn and her family, Uncle Walter and his family and our grandparents. There were 15 of us. I think it was Uncle Walter's daughter Stephanie who asked him to "please pass the olives." Uncle Walter happily obliged by tossing a single olive to the other end of the table where all of the young cousins were sitting.



Bryne Adelaide Wiemer, Aidan Thomas Wiemer, Walter Mears, on Grandpa's lap is Tristan Wiemer, behind Grandpa is Nathaniel Stich, Madeline Stich.

From Cam Mears (Walter's Nephew, son of William Mears)

I remember looking forward to seeing Uncle Walter at Grammie and Grandpa's house on Lake Winnepesaukee when I was a kid. It seemed that the Virginia Mearses didn't come to the lake as often as the rest of us, so it was always a special occasion. Next to Stephanie's ghost stories, I looked forward to seeing Uncle Walter because it seemed

he was always joking around and being irreverent. I recall a shaving cream “fight” between him and my dad. I can’t remember how old I was, or really many of the specifics, but I do remember one of them chasing the other through the house with a can of shaving cream.

When Uncle Walter won the Pulitzer Prize, I sent him a congratulatory letter. I believe it was in cartoon form; that was my thing at the time. He sent me a thank you card, which was typed and in a small AP envelope. He said I should keep up the drawing, and that a guy from the Boston Globe had won the Pulitzer for political cartoons that year.

Uncle Walter asked me to get him a bottle of some upscale Jack Daniel’s when I was on my way to Stephen’s wedding in Tennessee in 2000. I remember carrying Annabel in her baby carrier into several liquor stores looking for it. This was before the days of mobile internet, so I can’t recall how Uncle Walter got in touch with me to make the request. I also don’t recall why I was the one chosen for the mission. I’ve been told that Uncle Walter was introduced to Jack Daniel’s by JFK’s Secret Service agents.

Many of the recent articles have emphasized Uncle Walter’s ability to get right to the point. Sometime about 10 years ago, I met a guy in the insurance industry who also happened to be a published writer. He began to ask me, “Are you related to...” and I expected the usual “Rick Mears.” However he continued, “...Walter Mears.” We had a nice chat about his reverence for Uncle Walter, which I conveyed to Uncle Walter in an email. Uncle Walter’s response was indeed right to the point. One sentence: “It’s nice to be remembered.”

From Stephen Long (Walter’s Nephew, son of Carolyn Mears)

My mom told me about how he became a journalist, which may or may not be accurate. According to her, he really wanted to be a hockey player but realized that wasn’t going to happen professionally so decided to become a sports reporter as the next best option.



Walter, Fran, Marty Stich, Stephanie Stich, Nathaniel Stich, Madeline Stich. Governor's Club, Chapel Hill 2009

From Cynthia Long (Walter's niece, daughter of Carolyn Mears)

Uncle Walter was the speaker at my commencement from Abingdon Friends School in 1988. Our headmaster was Walter's cousin, Bruce Stewart, so he mentioned in the beginning of his speech that he "suspected there was some nepotism at work" in his being chosen.

What struck me about his words, and what has stayed with me, was that he chose to talk about something he told us he knew and cared about – writing.

"It is, I think, the single most valuable talent you can have, or skill you can develop," he said. And he had it in spades, and as I write that I realize he would have edited it from his own copy because of the cliché!

I also remember watching Uncle Walter on "Meet the Press" with my parents when I was very young. It was exciting to see Uncle Walter on TV. I had no idea what he was talking about, but I always thought he wore the most interesting neckties, compared to the other guests.

The year after my mom, Carolyn Mears Long, passed away, Uncle Walter and Fran hosted my dad, my brother and me for Thanksgiving, our first without Carolyn. It was wonderful to be with family and I really appreciated that he did that for us.

Uncle Walter's dry sense of humor was another thing I will fondly remember. There's a family story (that may have been more lore than fact) that he once told a joke

incorrectly and couldn't live it down: "Beside a dog, reading is man's best friend. Inside, it's too dark!" But he mistakenly said "beside" instead of "outside" a dog.

Like my cousin Jennifer, I also remember Uncle Walter throwing the olive down the table. We laughed about that for years!

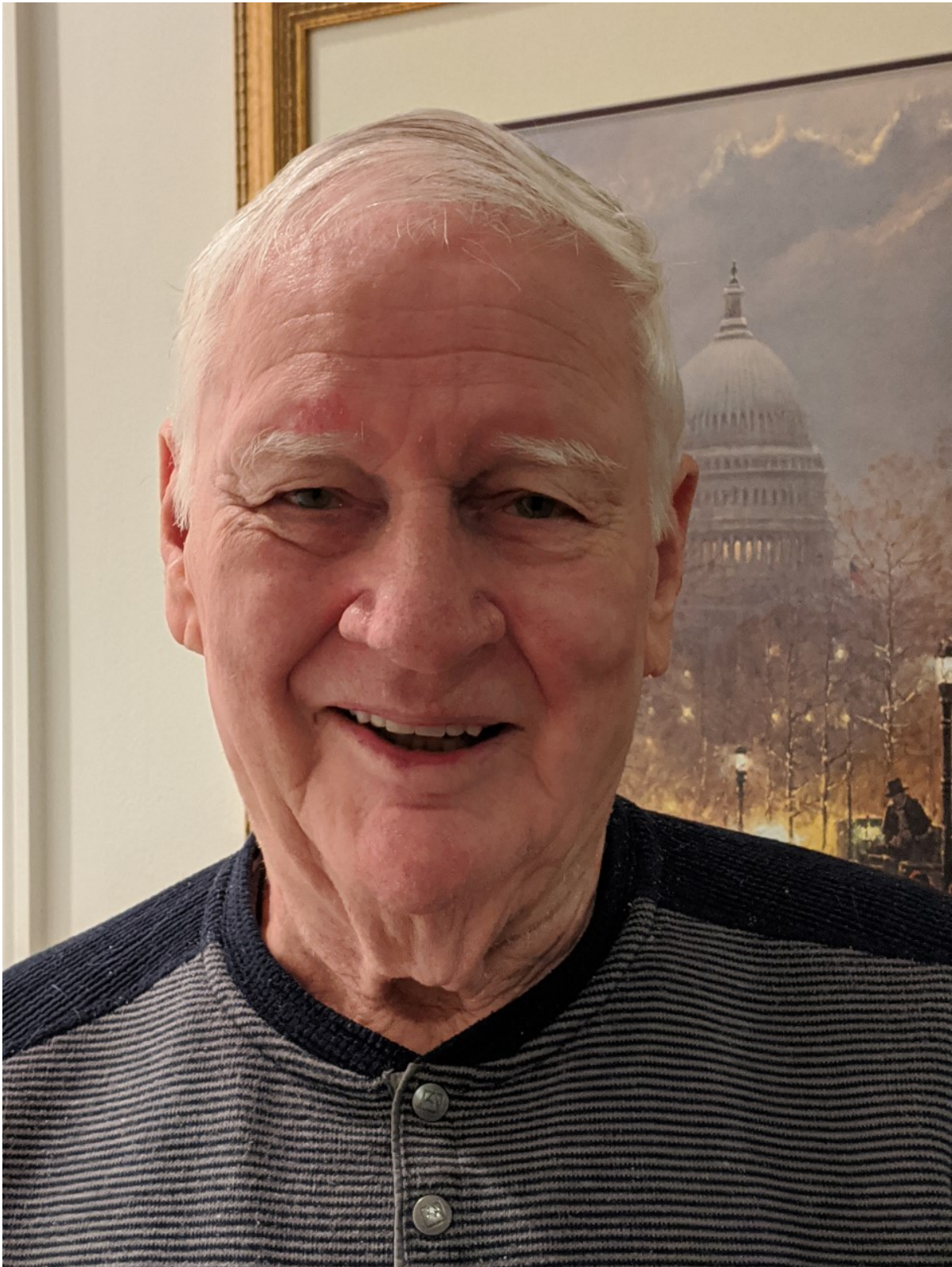


Fran and Walter on his 80th birthday in 2015

From Stephanie Stich

When my daughter, Madeline, was born in 1994, dad had just met Fran Richardson. Dad came to visit and met his granddaughter with a new lightness and

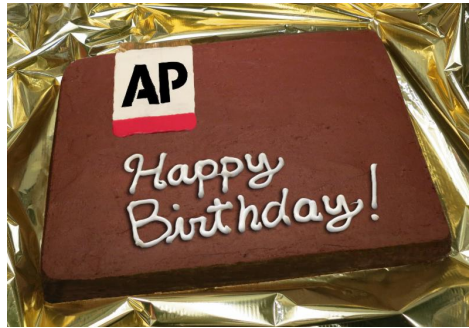
contentment. Fran brought that same calm and kindness to our growing family. Grandpa and Fran coming over for a visit meant playtime. Fran helped dad slow down and be in the moment with his grandchildren. She even helped him find fun in child-centered chaos. With Fran at his side, he embraced silliness, nonsense, dress-up and frivolity. Her presence was a tremendous gift to dad, his children and his grandchildren. Although, if you ask Nathaniel, Madeline, Aidan, Tristan and Brynne, they were not “his” grandchildren, they were their grandchildren. The grandkids’ love for Fran made her death in 2019, also from cancer, almost unbearable. We continue to celebrate the years of love, laughter, lightness and comfort the Grandpa/Fran duo brought to our family.



85th birthday at home at the Cedars, Chapel Hill, 2020

-30-

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Heidi Brown

Hoyt Harwell

Today in History - March 9, 2022



By The Associated Press

Today is Wednesday, March 9, the 68th day of 2022. There are 297 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 9, 1933, Congress, called into special session by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, began its "hundred days" of enacting New Deal legislation.

On this date:

In 1796, the future emperor of the French, Napoleon Bonaparte, married Josephine de Beauharnais (boh-ahr-NAY'). (The couple later divorced.)

In 1841, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *United States v. The Amistad*, ruled 7-1 in favor of a group of illegally enslaved Africans who were captured off the U.S. coast after seizing control of a Spanish schooner, *La Amistad*; the justices ruled that the Africans should be set free.

In 1862, during the Civil War, the ironclads *USS Monitor* and *CSS Virginia* (formerly *USS Merrimac*) clashed for five hours to a draw at Hampton Roads, Virginia.

In 1916, more than 400 Mexican raiders led by Pancho Villa (VEE'-uh) attacked Columbus, New Mexico, killing 18 Americans. During the First World War, Germany declared war on Portugal.

In 1945, during World War II, U.S. B-29 bombers began launching incendiary bomb attacks against Tokyo, resulting in an estimated 100,000 deaths.

In 1964, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*, raised the standard for public officials to prove they'd been libeled in their official capacity by news organizations.

In 1976, a cable car in the Italian ski resort of Cavalese fell some 700 feet to the ground when a supporting line snapped, killing 43 people.

In 1987, Chrysler Corp. announced it had agreed to buy the financially ailing American Motors Corp.

In 1989, the Senate rejected President George H.W. Bush's nomination of John Tower to be defense secretary by a vote of 53-47. (The next day, Bush tapped Wyoming Rep. Dick Cheney, who went on to win unanimous Senate approval.)

In 1997, gangsta rapper The Notorious B.I.G. (Christopher Wallace) was killed in a still-unsolved drive-by shooting in Los Angeles; he was 24.

In 2000, John McCain suspended his presidential campaign, conceding the Republican nomination to George W. Bush. Bill Bradley ended his presidential bid, conceding the Democratic nomination to Vice President Al Gore.

In 2020, global stock markets and oil prices plunged, reflecting mounting alarm over the impact of the coronavirus. An alarmingly sharp slide at the opening bell on Wall Street triggered the first automatic halt in trading in more than two decades; the Dow industrials finished nearly 8% lower.

Ten years ago: A high-profile international mission to end the Syrian crisis stumbled before it began as the opposition rejected calls by U.N. envoy Kofi Annan for dialogue with President Bashar Assad as pointless and out of touch after a year of violence. Lindsey Vonn of the United States won the World Cup giant slalom race in Are, Sweden to clinch her fourth overall title.

Five years ago: Human rights lawyer Amal Clooney urged Iraq and the world's nations not to let the Islamic State extremist group "get away with genocide," telling a U.N. meeting that what was "shocking" was not just the group's brutality but the "passive" response by the world's nations.

One year ago: Buckingham Palace said allegations of racism made earlier in the week by Prince Harry and Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex, were “concerning” and would be addressed privately by the royal family. Longtime NBC and CBS correspondent and television anchor Roger Mudd died at his Virginia home at the age of 93.

Today’s Birthdays: Former Sen. James L. Buckley, Conservative-N.Y., is 99. Actor Joyce Van Patten is 88. Country singer Mickey Gilley is 86. Actor Trish Van Devere is 81. Singer-musician John Cale (The Velvet Underground) is 80. Singer Mark Lindsay (Paul Revere and the Raiders) is 80. Former ABC anchorman Charles Gibson is 79. Rock musician Robin Trower is 77. Singer Jeffrey Osborne is 74. Country musician Jimmie Fadden (The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band) is 74. Actor Jaime Lyn Bauer is 73. Magazine editor Michael Kinsley is 71. TV newscaster Faith Daniels is 65. Actor Linda Fiorentino is 64. Actor Tom Amandes is 63. Actor-director Lonny Price is 63. Country musician Rusty Hendrix (Confederate Railroad) is 62. Actor Juliette Binoche is 58. Rock musician Robert Sledge (Ben Folds Five) is 54. Rock musician Shannon Leto (30 Seconds to Mars) is 52. Rapper C-Murder (AKA C-Miller) is 51. Actor Emmanuel Lewis is 51. Actor Jean Louisa Kelly is 50. Actor Kerr Smith is 50. Actor Oscar Isaac is 43. Comedian Jordan Klepper (TV: “The Daily Show”) is 43. Rapper Chingy is 42. Actor Matthew Gray Gubler is 42. Rock musician Chad Gilbert (New Found Glory) is 41. NHL defenseman Brent Burns is 37. Actor Brittany Snow is 36. Rapper Bow Wow is 35. Rapper YG is 32. Actor Cierra Ramirez is 27. U.S. Olympic gold-medal-winning gymnast Sunisa Lee is 19.

Got a story or photos to share?

Connecting is a daily newsletter published Monday through Friday that focuses on retired and former Associated Press employees, present-day employees, and news industry and journalism school colleagues. It began in 2013 and past issues can be found by clicking Connecting Archive in the masthead. Its author, Paul Stevens, retired from the AP in 2009 after a 36-year career as a newsman in Albany and St. Louis, correspondent in Wichita, chief of bureau in Albuquerque, Indianapolis and Kansas City, and Midwest vice president based in Kansas City.

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:

- **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.

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

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