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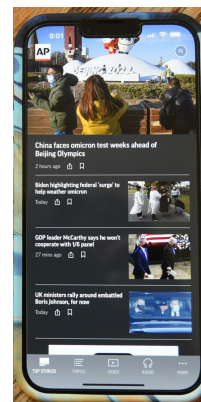
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Connecting

August 22, 2022

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Colleagues:

Good Monday morning on this Aug. 22, 2022,

Family and friends gathered Sunday in New York to remember Marcus Eliason for his storied career and life. Longtime AP colleague and friend Charles Hanley was there and brings us a report on the gathering of about 50 at the Eliasons' New York apartment and dozens more from around the world via Zoom.

We're also sad to relay the news of the death of former AP Wyoming Correspondent Jim Angell, remembered as a "funny" and "new-age" guy.

Paul returns to the Connecting helm Tuesday after a family outing to Branson in Missouri's Ozarks.

Be well,

Peg

pcoughlin@ap.org

Family, friends remember Marcus Eliason



At Sunday's memorial gathering for Marcus Eliason, his widow, Eva, and daughter, Avital, listen as former UPI Israel correspondent Allen Alter recalls the days decades ago when he competed for headlines with Marcus, "the funniest and smartest guy I knew." (Photo by Aaron Jackson)

Charlie Hanley - Family and friends gathered in New York on Sunday to celebrate the life of our colleague Marcus Eliason, who passed away Aug. 5 after a remarkable, almost half-century-long career that left an indelible mark on The AP and on all who knew, worked with, and admired and loved him.

"His legacy will live on even beyond our own lifetimes," Myron Belkind, AP London chief when Eliason served there as news editor, said in remarks read by fellow London bureau alum Edie Lederer.

Marcus, diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and being cared for in a Manhattan nursing home, died just days after developing a severe case of pneumonia. He was 75.

His great talents as a journalist – "insightful reporting, sparkling prose and skillful editing," as his AP obit noted – took this big, brilliant Israeli from the Tel Aviv bureau and the 1967 Six-Day War, to postings in Paris, London, Hong Kong and to countless other global assignments in between, before he retired in 2014 after 17 years as a top features editor at New York headquarters.

Some 50 people gathered in the leafy back courtyard of the Eliasons' apartment building on Manhattan's Upper West Side and were joined by more than 30 others via Zoom from around the world, from Israel, to Singapore, to Los Angeles and London, as his widow, Eva, and daughter, Avital, sat by and heard heartfelt memories recounted of an extraordinary man.

t wasn't just his gifts of observation, reporting and writing these friends and colleagues spoke of, but also his charming wit and sense of fun, and his boundless, voracious intellect.

"He was always the funniest and smartest guy I knew. His ability to mimic anyone he met was legendary," said Allen Alter, a friendly rival as UPI correspondent in Israel decades ago. "And he was an incredible competitor."

Family friend Ruth Brody Sharon recalled walking into the Eliason bedroom once during a visit. "There next to the bed he had 10 to 12 books stacked up. And that was just what he ate for breakfast," she said with a laugh via Zoom from Los Angeles.

His were forever friendships. Classmates from his teenage years in Israel linked in for the event.

One, Herschel Lemel, said he would call Marcus after his Alzheimer's diagnosis to chat, and it was always so enjoyable, "like a holiday for both of us." Another, online from Singapore, a Burma-born classmate the boys called "Green Lotus" (real name Marla) remembered "a really, really great guy. ... I was really blessed to have known him."

Marcus' last boss, John Daniszewski, then AP's international editor, quipped that "no one could really boss Marcus. ... He was a force of nature."

Now it's difficult, he said, to "imagine someone with so much life in him could be taken from us."

The gathering also heard emotional words of loss, and of joy in having known him, from such former and current APers in attendance as Larry Thorson, Ted Anthony, Molly Gordy, Verena Dobnik and Edie Lederer with her own tribute, and from Marcus' brother Yossi in Israel.

With words of gratitude from Eva, the Zoom link then was closed, and the dozens of Eliason comrades and fans in New York settled in to trade more tales of Marcus, who was buried Aug. 10 near his parents, in Kadima, Israel.



Ted Anthony, AP's Global Director of New Storytelling and Newsroom Innovation, "Hanging out with two of my idols at the memorial service of another." Edie Lederer, Ted and Bob Reid. (Photo by Jim Areddy.)

Former Wyoming AP Correspondent Jim Angell dies at 64



CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) — Jim Angell, a former Associated Press Wyoming correspondent and Wyoming Press Association executive director, died Wednesday, Aug. 17. He was 64.

For decades, Angell was a fierce advocate for journalism and journalists in Wyoming and known for his unflinching personality, wit and unfailing sense of humor.

Most recently, Angell was managing editor of the Cowboy State Daily, which he helped establish in 2019, two years after he and his wife, Mary, founded the Wyoming News Exchange, a cooperative service for the state's newspapers.

"Nobody was prouder of Wyoming newspapers than Jim Angell," Robb Hicks, president of the Wyoming Press Association Foundation and publisher of the Buffalo Bulletin, told the Casper Star-Tribune.

Angell was born May 29, 1958, in Spokane, Washington, the only child of Walla Walla wheat farmers Carol and Darrel Dean Angell. He graduated from Walla Walla High School in 1976 and earned his bachelor's degree in journalism from Washington State University in 1981.

He was a reporter at the Tri-City Herald in Kennewick, Washington, before moving to Cheyenne in 1985 to take a job with the AP, where he worked until 1998. He married Mary Shannon, then a reporter for the Wyoming Eagle, in 1990. Their daughter Amanda was born in 1997.

Angell became director of the Wyoming Press Association in 1998, a job he held for 20 years. A staunch advocate of open government, he lobbied the Wyoming Legislature and educated reporters and elected officials about Wyoming's open meetings and public records laws.

The Wyoming Press Association in 2019 gave Angell the Milton Chilcott Award for his “extraordinary efforts to defend access to public information.”

A talented guitarist and singer/songwriter, Angell played in five bands in Cheyenne and was famous among Wyoming journalists for performing at Wyoming Press Association conventions.

He also learned to do voiceover work and narrated four audio books for Boulder, Colorado, romance novelist L.A. Sartor.

Angell was preceded in death by his parents and by Jeff “Kong” Shields of Walla Walla, Washington, a close family friend whom Angell considered a brother. He is survived by his wife and daughter.

Arrangements for a celebration of life were pending.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Wyoming Press Association Foundation at 2121 Evans Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82001.



Remembering a funny, new-age guy

Matt Kohlman - (Jim) was a joy to work with over many years in the AP Cheyenne office. A patient, funny, sensitive new-age guy. He will be missed. ... The sensitive new age guy part is an inside joke about the name of a regular lunch group we had. But he did truly fit that role. (Wyoming staff from left, Matt Kohlman, Danny Katayama, Jon Sarche and Jim Angell.)

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Nancy Roberts Trott - My first interaction with (Jim) was when I was in the Concord, NH, bureau working on a story about women Republicans who were trying to push for a pro-choice platform in the party (truly a different time). I called because this was actually called "the Wyoming plank" as I recall. After explaining what I was working on, he paused briefly, and said, "So you're not calling about the rodeo?" Then he let out an uproarious laugh. Delightful. I got to meet him later at the Republican convention that year.

Another story from the broadcast desk

Marcus Wilson - Carl Leubsdorf's contribution in Friday's Connecting (he remembered intentionally composing tongue twisters on the broadcast desk) reminded me of a great story told me by the late, great Jules Loh, a member of AP's "Poet's Corner."

Jules, one of the best writers in AP history, started his wire service career in the Louisville bureau.

One of his first assignments, of course, was night radio.

"I hated it," he told me (as memory serves), "so I intentionally wrote splits that would be nearly impossible to read but that were grammatically correct. It was exhausting work, but I wanted to make sure they didn't keep me on night broadcast."

They didn't.

Jules went on the break all the rules, including (he claimed) the largest expense account in AP history.

Among many great yarns, he retraced the journey of Lewis and Clark for a story that ran 6,000 words. And he co-wrote a series about four aging World War II veterans that ran 40,000 words. He covered the U.S. Space program and major Civil Rights movement stories.

Jules died in August 2010 at the age of 79.

"He was the best. He could do anything," said Sid Moody, the last surviving member of Poet's Corner.

Except write an easy-to-read broadcast split.

Another shot of 'baptism-by-booze'

Jim Reindl - Dave Tomlin's hilarious self-incriminating yarn reminded me of my own baptism-by-booze embarrassment.

My first paying newspaper job was the summer of 1977 at the Saginaw (MI) News. One day I drew an assignment to work with the investigative reporter who was reporting on a judge with a habit of doing little work for his judicial, taxpayer-funded salary.

The judge went to a certain multi-star restaurant for long lunches every day. My job was to stake out the restaurant and record his entry and exit times. I parked in the lot and set up my watch. The judge arrived, and I recorded the time in my notebook then settled back to wait him out.

Saginaw is located in the bean field flats near the crook that forms Michigan's "thumb." Summers are hot, and I was soon overcome by a powerful thirst. I figured I could really keep an eye on the judge from the restaurant bar, so I headed inside and took a stool.

I ordered a gin and tonic, I think partly to look like I belonged among the expensive suits. That one went down smoothly, so I ordered a second, which also hit the spot. I don't recall a third, but there could have been. I know I eventually realized I'd better get back to the car, so I headed back into the heat much more "refreshed." It wasn't long before my eyelids felt like manhole covers.

Since this was long before cell phones, when the reporter and news desk failed to hear from me after hours on the stakeout, the reporter came to look for me. He found me fast asleep behind the wheel of my car with the judge's arrival time in my notebook and a blank spot underneath. The judge — and my investigative reporting career — were long gone.

Calls to cover stories while on vacation

Frank Aukofer - Because it was such a big story, The Milwaukee Journal had assigned me to cover all of the impeachment hearings. On Aug. 24, the Judiciary Committee voted to impeach President Nixon and put him on trial in the Senate. It approved three articles of impeachment, and rejected two others. But the three that were approved accused the president of, among other things, obstruction of justice, abuse of power, misuse of government agencies and a refusal to comply with subpoenas from the committee. The first two articles, encompassing the major charges, were approved on bipartisan votes of 27-11 and 28-10, with six Republicans joining all of the committee's Democrats on the first vote, and seven joining them on the second.

Among the Republicans was Wisconsin's Harold Froehlich, who had sometimes derisively been called, behind his back, "Fat Harold." He had been a Wisconsin assemblyman before being elected to Congress, and had been regularly pilloried by The Journal's liberal cartoonist and editorial writers for his right-wing stands on issues. But as a member of Congress, he turned out to be as principled as any member I covered. On the Judiciary Committee, though skeptical of the accusations against Nixon and inclined to support him as a fellow conservative Republican, he never had what could be regarded as a knee-jerk reaction to disclosures about the president's conduct in the Watergate affair. Instead, Froehlich insisted that he would make up his mind based on the evidence.

In the end, he voted for those two articles of impeachment, and it likely cost him his job. He served only one term in the House, and then was defeated for re-election. Froehlich went on to become a respected judge in Appleton, and years later we reminisced over the telephone about his role in the Nixon impeachment hearings. He expressed no regrets, and I told him how much I had admired him.

The House took a recess after the impeachment votes, and I headed to Wisconsin with my family in our '70 Chevy Kingswood Estate station wagon. Sharlene and I, after a few years in Washington, had devised a system for making the 800-mile journey. We piled all of our luggage in a weatherproof carrier on top of the car, folded the back two rows of seats, put the four kids in their pajamas and dumped them in back with pillows, blankets and a tape player with a tape I had recorded of songs that appealed to children, like Harry Bellafonte's "Mama, Look a Boo-Boo," and the Kingston Trio's "Zombie Jamboree."

We usually set off about 7 p.m. and endured a couple of hours of the kids arguing and horsing around in back. There was no thought in those days of securing them in car seats; they simply rolled and flopped around back there, with us shouting at them to behave, until they finally put their heads down and went to sleep. They'd wake up about 8 a.m., after we'd traversed the Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana Turnpikes, we'd stop for breakfast near Chicago, get them dressed, and cruise the last hour and a half into Milwaukee.

Our two weeks there were almost up when my bureau chief, Jack Kole, called to say that that Nixon planned to resign. I immediately jumped into our car and drove back, making the 800 miles in about 12 hours. Sharlene and the kids flew back later, using her United Airlines passes.

I got back in time to be in the White House press room the evening of Aug. 8, when Nixon went on television to tell the nation that he would resign the next day. Like everyone else, the reporters watched it on the tube, and that evening there occurred a historical oddity.

The press room was crowded with reporters before the televised speech, when suddenly the door to the west wing was closed and locked. I was heading out the door to the north lawn and the northwest entrance on Pennsylvania Avenue when that door was locked, too, and a couple of uniformed Secret Service men stationed themselves outside. Nobody had any idea what was going on.

Word later circulated throughout the press room that the doors had been locked because Nixon wanted to take one last, solitary walk around the White House grounds, without interruption. Time passed, the doors were unlocked, and we watched the president announce his resignation.

The next day, the press corps marched into the East Room to watch Nixon deliver his resignation speech live. But we were captives and could not do the whole story. All we had were the words and bits of description. I later watched the television coverage, with Nixon flying away on the presidential helicopter, and wished that I had simply stayed away and covered it off the tube.

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Brian Bland - Christmastime, 1987, back to my hometown, Memphis, Tenn., from the AP Radio studio in Los Angeles, ready to spend a week with my mother, uncle and childhood friends. The busy year had included two earlier trips to Memphis to cover the 10th anniversary of Elvis Presley's death.

Across the Mississippi River, folks in West Memphis, Ark., were trying to recover from an EF-3 tornado that had cut a swath through town on Dec. 14, killing six.

A steady rain was falling on Christmas Eve, and by nightfall on Christmas Day it had become a downpour. Evacuations had begun in Arkansas, and I did a spot for the network, which already had some audio. The rain became torrential during the night and the network called in the morning, Dec. 26, to have me head for West Memphis.

My best friend, former AP staffer Ron "Butch" Alford, a publicist at the University of Memphis, picked me up (with a bag of sandwiches, water and sodas). We stopped at a sporting goods store so I could get proper boots and a rain suit. After renting a car, it was over the bridge across the Mississippi River to West Memphis, as the rain began to slacken. We found a man with a small outboard-powered boat. He took us through the area of flooded homes near the river as I recorded "sceners," then did interviews at an evacuation center. I filed the tape to the network from there, as I recall, via the wires-into-the-phone's-mouthpiece method.

West Memphis had gotten 12 inches of rain in 24 hours. A thousand homes were flooded in eastern Arkansas (and some in west Tennessee).

Then, on Jan. 5, seven to 10 inches of snow fell! Happy to say that by then I was home in L.A.

Elvis has not left Connecting

[Wendy Davis Beard](#) - I think Linda Deutsch should lobby Ken Burns for one of his special multi-episode treatment series on the King of Rock and Roll. We just finished watching his excellent series on Ali, which not only was a treasure trove of images and stories about Ali the boxer, but an amazing history of him, more specifically as an American Muslim and the changing perception of what that meant.

AP Best of the Week: Lightning-fast coverage by eyewitness Goodman puts AP far ahead on Rushdie attack



Miami-based AP reporter Josh Goodman was in the audience at the Chautauqua Institution in western New York — enjoying his vacation — when a man rushed the stage and stabbed Salman Rushdie, the author who has lived under threat of death since 1989. In the critical moments that followed, Goodman cemented a huge competitive advantage for AP on one of the biggest global news stories of the week.

Amid chaos in the hall, Goodman shot smartphone images of people attending to Rushdie on the stage, then quickly sent photos and dictated details to AP. Some 20 minutes after the attack, AP had an alert and photos in the hands of members and customers.

Goodman continued reporting for all formats while colleagues from New York to Iran pitched in on the story. No news organization could catch up in those initial hours. For extraordinary work across formats by an accomplished journalist who understood the needs of AP clients and how to handle breaking news when it erupted in front of him, Goodman earns AP's Best of the Week — First Winner.

Stories of interest

Before signing off, Margaret Sullivan offers advice to her fellow journalists on how to cover a perilous election



Perspective by Margaret Sullivan
Columnist
The Washington Post

After a recent announcement that I've decided to retire this column and leave The Washington Post, a Vanity Fair reporter asked me by email about the media's performance in covering threats to democracy. That certainly was a fair question, since it's been one of my most frequent subjects here.

I'm "encouraged one day, despairing the next," I told her, adding that the next election cycle is going to be a real test for the reality-based press.

This is my last column for The Post — my plans include teaching at Duke University and publishing a book this fall, both a personal memoir and a tell-all about what I've seen in my four decades in journalism. So I'll explain more about what I meant.

Here's the good news: The media has come a long, long way in figuring out how to cover the democracy-threatening ways of Donald Trump and his allies, including his stalwart helpers in right-wing media. It is now common to see headlines and stories that plainly refer to some politicians as "election deniers," and journalists are far less hesitant to use the blunt and clarifying word "lie" to describe Trump's false

statements. That includes, of course, the former president's near-constant campaign to claim that the 2020 presidential election was rigged to prevent him from keeping the White House.

What's more, the media seems finally to have absorbed what should have been blindingly obvious from the beginning: Trump is by no means a normal political figure, and he will never reform into some kind of responsible statesman. (Who can forget the perennial predictions that he was becoming "presidential" every time he read from a teleprompter instead of veering off on an insulting rant?)

Another encouraging development is the decision by a number of major media organizations, including The Post, to form democracy teams or beats, concentrating on efforts to limit voting access, the politicization of election systems and the insidious efforts to instill doubt in the public about legitimate voting results.

And yet, I worry that it's not nearly enough. I don't mean to suggest that journalists can address the threats to democracy all by themselves — but they must do more.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Scott Charton, Harry Dunphy, Mike Feinsilber

Courageous journalism is happening in Afghanistan. We can help.

**By Kathy Gannon
For Committee to Protect Journalists**

Journalism in today's Afghanistan is certainly wounded, but it's far from dead. The evidence is produced daily, even hourly:

*At a Kabul press conference given by ex-President Hamid Karzai in February, the room was full of journalists. At least 12 TV cameras and multimedia reporters jockeyed for position at the back of the room to record the former president's tongue-lashing of the U.S. administration after it took \$3.5 billion dollars in Afghan foreign reserves and gave it to victims of the 9/11 attacks on the United States.

*When a powerful earthquake rumbled through Afghanistan's eastern Paktika province in June, killing more than 1,000 people—destroying houses, families, entire villages—Afghan TV cameras were there, sending images and information to viewers nationwide.

*Also in June, Kelly Clements, the deputy high commissioner for the U.N. Refugee Agency, was in Afghanistan. I counted at least nine microphones pressing toward her. All but one or two belonged to Afghan news organizations.

*In July, Afghan media reported on a conference of religious scholars in eastern Afghanistan demanding education for all girls, as well as events such as a visit of Pakistani clerics to Afghanistan seeking Taliban help to find a peaceful end to an insurgency being waged by Pakistani Taliban in Pakistan's border regions from bases in Afghanistan.

This is not journalism as it was before the Taliban took power last August, but it is journalism. It demands our respect and support. Sounding the death knell on journalism in Afghanistan is an insult to those tenacious Afghans who continue to report, edit, and broadcast under difficult conditions.

Read more [here](#).

Email [Kathy](#).

The story media miss: Themselves

By Jeff Jarvis
BuzzMachine

Media are not merely observers in the story of democracy's demise; they are players. Media require coverage. Who will cover media? Not media. Then no one.

The New York Times and The Washington Post eliminated their ombudsmen long since.

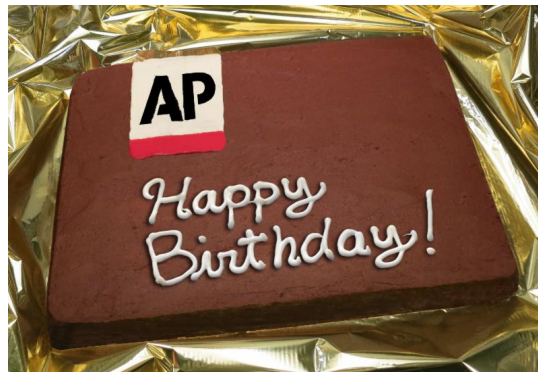
With the death of David Carr and the departure of his short-lived and inconsequential successors, with the retirement of Margaret Sullivan, and now with the cancellation of Brian Stelter's Reliable Sources on CNN, there is no one covering media as a story for the public.

Yes, there are pontificators aplenty — present company included — and there is inside-baseball coverage for media people from the likes of the Columbia Journalism Review. But who is holding media to account for its impact on the political process for the public? No one.

This is a shameful abrogation of responsibility by our field, journalism.

Read more [here](#).

Connecting wishes Happy Birthday



Norm Black

Today in History – Aug. 22, 2022



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, Aug. 22, the 234th day of 2022. There are 131 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 22, 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*.

On this date:

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

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

In 1914, Austria-Hungary declared war against Belgium.

In 1922, Irish revolutionary Michael Collins was shot to death, apparently by Irish Republican Army members opposed to the Anglo-Irish Treaty that Collins had co-signed.

In 1968, Pope Paul VI arrived in Bogota, Colombia, for the start of the first papal visit to South America.

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 1989, Black Panthers co-founder Huey P. Newton was shot to death in Oakland,

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.)

In 1996, President Bill Clinton signed welfare legislation ending guaranteed cash payments to the poor and demanding work from recipients.

In 2000, Publishers Clearing House agreed to pay \$18 million to 24 states and the District of Columbia to settle allegations it had used deceptive promotions in its sweepstakes mailings.

In 2003, Alabama's chief justice, Roy Moore, was suspended for his refusal to obey a federal court order to remove his Ten Commandments monument from the rotunda of his courthouse.

In 2007, A Black Hawk helicopter crashed in Iraq, killing all 14 U.S. soldiers aboard. Hurricane Dean slammed into Mexico for the second time in as many days.

Ten years ago: Ousted Penn State president Graham Spanier and his lawyers attacked a university-backed report on the Jerry Sandusky sex abuse scandal, calling it a "blundering and indefensible indictment." (Spanier was later convicted of child endangerment for failing to report a child sexual abuse allegation against Sandusky.)

Five years 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.

One year ago: The British military said at least seven Afghans died in a panicked crush of people trying to enter Kabul's international airport, as thousands continued to try to flee the country a week after the Taliban takeover. The Pentagon ordered six U.S. commercial airlines to help move evacuees from temporary sites outside of Afghanistan. Miguel Cabrera became the 28th major league player to hit 500 home runs, as the Detroit Tigers beat the Toronto Blue Jays 5-3 in 11 innings.

Today's Birthdays: Broadcast journalist Morton Dean is 86. Author Annie Proulx (proo) is 86. Baseball Hall of Famer Carl Yastrzemski (yah-STREM'-skee) is 82. Pro Football Hall of Fame coach Bill Parcells is 80. Writer-producer David Chase is 76. CBS newsman Steve Kroft is 76. Actor Cindy Williams is 74. Pop musician David Marks is 73. International Swimming Hall of Famer Diana Nyad (NY'-ad) is 72. Baseball Hall of Famer Paul Molitor is 65. Rock musician Vernon Reid is 63. Country singer Ricky Lynn Gregg is 62. Country singer Collin Raye is 61. Actor Regina Taylor is 61. Rock singer Roland Orzabal (Tears For Fears) is 60. Rock musician Debbi Peterson (The Bangles) is 60. Rock musician Gary Lee Conner (Screaming Trees) is 59. Singer Tori Amos is 58. Country singer Mila Mason is 58. R&B musician James DeBarge is 58. International Tennis Hall of Famer Mats Wilander (VEE'-luhn-dur) is 57. Actor Brooke Dillman is 55. Rapper GZA (JIHZ'-ah)/The Genius is 55. Actor Adewale Akinuoye-Agbaje (ah-day-WAH'-lay ah-kih-NOY'-yay ah-BAH'-jay) is 54. Actor Ty Burrell is 54. Celebrity chef Giada De Laurentiis is 51. Actor Melinda Page Hamilton is 50. Actor Rick Yune is 50. Rock musician Paul Doucette (DOO'-set) (Matchbox Twenty) is 49. Rap-reggae singer Beenie Man is 48. Singer Howie Dorough (Backstreet Boys) is 48. Comedian-actor

Kristen Wiig is 48. Actor Jenna Leigh Green is 47. Rock musician Bo Koster is 47. Rock musician Dean Back (Theory of a Deadman) is 46. Talk show host James Corden is 43. Rock musician Jeff Stinco (Simple Plan) is 43. Actor Brandon Adams is 42. Actor Aya Sumika is 41. Actor Ari Stidham is 29.

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:

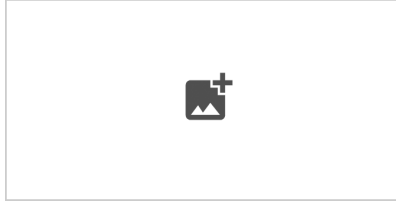
- **Connecting "selfies"** - a word and photo self-profile of you and your career, and what you are doing today. Both for new members and those who have been with us a while.
- **Second chapters** - You finished a great career. Now tell us about your second (and third and fourth?) chapters of life.
- **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.

Paul Stevens

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