



Radio Host Amy McGovern in Fatal Motorcycle Accident



The VAB is very sad to have just learned of the passing of long-time radio personality Amy McGovern last evening. Amy was doing what she loved, riding her motorcycle, when she she lost control navigating a corner on Rt. 7 in Georgia, VT.

Anyone who met Amy would never forget her! Not only was she a very talented radio host and a wiz at production, but had a vivacious personality, upbeat attitude, an infectious smile and an endearing laugh!

"I've never met anyone who had as much passion for radio" says Dan Dubonnet, VP/GM of Hall Communications, "Amy could have performed on any station - format didn't matter - she loved music, loved her listeners and was always willing to help out."

"The Hall Communications radio family has been devastated by the news and the passing of Amy McGovern, longtime radio personality and employee at our radio stations. Amy was a radio veteran of almost 30-years, working for us on two separate occasions over the last eight years. Amy most recently hosted the KOOL 105 midday show, while also filling in on sister stations WOKO and WIZN. We will miss her never ending energy, her smile, and her contagious laugh. Our thoughts go out to her father, her family, and all her friends. We will miss her dearly." –The Hall Communications Radio Staff



Amy also worked with the Radio Vermont Group in Waterbury as well as with The Point Independent Radio Network in Montpelier.

"She lived life big and never took a day off. She had a great big personality. If you were in the same room as her without seeing her, you knew she was there, especially when she laughed." says Radio Vermont Group GM Steve Cormier, "Radio was her first love and covering racing at Thunder Road or for NASCAR was a close second. One thing I loved about her was she cared. She had a big heart and a wonderful soul. Our small group of radio people will miss her."

The Point Radio Network GM Ed Flanagan says, "Everyone that worked with Amy at the Point is both shocked and saddened by this tragic news. Amy was a bright light at our stations and in our industry and

you knew she really loved working behind a microphone. She will be sorely missed."

Our heart goes out to Amy's family, friends and colleagues. The VAB will share any details about a memorial service as they become available.

VAB Remembers Mike Calhoun



Michael John Calhoun was born August 20, 1951 in Washington, DC to John Alan Calhoun and Aileen Joy Goldstone. He attended public schools in Arlington, Virginia and Barre, Vermont, graduating from Spaulding High School in 1969. He attended Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont.

Mike Calhoun had a long career in radio and journalism beginning as a disc jockey at WSNO and WSKI while in high school and college.

He began news reporting at WVMT and also worked at WHWB in Rutland and WJOY in South Burlington.

In 1978, Mike made the jump to politics and was named Press Secretary to U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy, working as spokesman for his 1980 successful reelection campaign.

In 1981 he joined WRC radio in Washington, DC as a street reporter and in 1983 was named News Director of the NBC owned news/talk radio station.

In 1986, he returned to Vermont and became Station Manager of WIZN-FM. He also wrote features for the Vanguard Press, an alternative weekly based in Burlington. In 1988 he became Communications Director for the Bill Gray for U.S. Senate campaign. In 1990 he was hired by WCAX-TV as a News Editor during their year-long Vermont Bicentennial project.

A life-long sailor, he spent the '90s single-handing his way around the U.S. East coast and Caribbean. In 1994 he became News Director of WRMF, Palm Beach, FL and in 1996 was hired to cover the Olympic Summer games and serve as News Director of WSB-FM, Atlanta. In 2000 he bought a 62 foot Nautical ketch and opened Southern Comfort Yacht Charters in the U.S. and British Virgin Islands.

He held a General Class Amateur Radio License, was an American Sailing Association certified instructor and held a U.S. Coast Guard 100-ton Near Coastal Master's License. In retirement he was a volunteer instructor and instructor trainer for the American Red Cross and drove Water Taxi in Palm Beach.

He is survived by his his loving husband Matthew whom he married in 2017 in Vergennes, Vermont, his youngest sister Susan, a niece Kristen, nephew Brad and a Moluccan cockatoo named Weeble.

Thank You From VT Dept for Children & Families



VERMONT

DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION

On behalf of the staff, families, children and youth who work, serve, or who are in foster care in Vermont, we want to thank the Vermont Association of Broadcasters for your continued generosity and inclusion of our message of the need for foster care providers throughout the state. Over the past few years, the VAB has generously supported our outreach to Vermonters and has shared the stories of the more than 1100 children and youth in foster care. Finding the right and best homes is ongoing. Through the VAB, we are able to reach a statewide audience at critical times of the year, including National Foster Care Month (May) and National Adoption Month (November). The hundreds of messages broadcast on 47 radio and television stations with a value of more than \$24,000 is a generosity we are overwhelmed by. With the diligent stewardship of VAB Executive Director, Wendy Mays, and Jim Condon before her; we have successfully shared our needs throughout Vermont. You have made it possible for us to do so in a most economical and inclusive way.

Thank you for your willingness to broadcast the story of foster care and the ongoing need for us to find home for children and youth during times of family stress. It is critical to their safety and wellbeing, and, with support, it is always our hope that a child can return to their birth family. When that is not possible, a permanent, loving home is sought. Thank you, members of the VAB, for your help. You are part of our care team and we are grateful for all you do to support safe homes for Vermont's children.

From all of us in the Family Services Division of the Department for Children and Families for the State of Vermont, thank you!

Sincerely,

Barb Joyal, Joan Rock & Mary Collins
The Family Services Division System of Care Staff

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