

TV COMMUNITY REMEMBERS DOUG MURPHY

Employees at KPIX-TV as well as the television community throughout Northern California bid a somber and fond farewell to former anchor/reporter **Doug Murphy** last month.

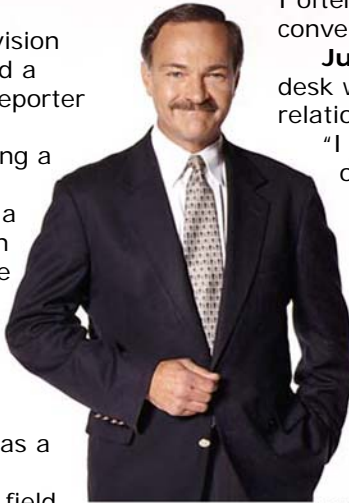
Murphy, 55, died of smoke inhalation during a fire at his Lafayette home in early December. The Ohio native had been in declining health a year prior to his death. He had left KPIX-TV in February on medical leave. In September, the San Francisco CBS affiliate announced Murphy was no longer employed there.

At his Dec. 9 funeral, friends and colleagues remembered Murphy as a jovial, friendly person who loved to sing and make conversation. They also said he took his role as a newscaster seriously and was well-prepared whether he was on the anchor desk or in the field reporting.

Murphy worked for more than 20 years at KPIX. He anchored the weekend evening news during most of that tenure.

Barbara Rodgers co-anchored with "Murph" for 13 years. She told Off Camera she used to joke she was the only co-anchor Murphy didn't date. She also recalled he made friends wherever he went. He used to tease Rodgers that he knew more African-Americans in Oakland than she did.

"Murph would start up a conversation with anyone," she said. "He loved to talk and he truly met no strangers."



I often kidded him, saying he would have a conversation with a lamppost."

Juliette Goodrich, who shared the anchor desk with Murphy for three years, had a close relationship with her co-anchor.

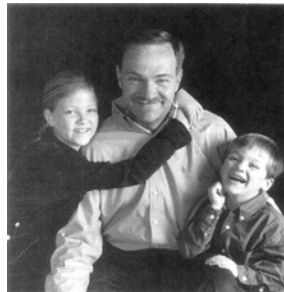
"I adored Murph and loved anchoring with him on the weekends," she recalled. "Two things that stand out in my mind. Every night before the show, he'd call his two children (**Maddie** and **Jack**) and tell them he loved them. Then, he'd stand up in the middle of the newsroom and in his loud, commanding voice say, 'It's show time at the Apollo!' That was our cue to head upstairs to the studio."

Editor **Katherine Kemiji-McDonald** remembers when he started at KPIX in 1983. She was the tender age of 20. Murphy was in his early 30s. She said he was the "older brother" to the young weekend news team.

"I will miss his smile, his wit and his endearing laugh," Kemiji-McDonald said. "He was truly one in a million and I am proud to have called him my friend."

Photographer **Zack Heene** put it simply.

"Doug never had a bad thing to say about anybody," Heene said. "He was down to earth and truly a 'Class A' kind of guy."



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