

Makovec, Eddie Alexander, Joe Vazquez, Mike Sugerman, Whitney Gould, Allen Martin, Sherry Hu, Steve Large, Marianne McClary, Ann Notarangelo and Mariana Thomas, enough funds have been raised to get Folster out of his car and into a Sacramento hotel room, at roughly \$50 per night, through Dec. 21. After that, he could be out on the street again. Meanwhile, he has applied for Social Security disability benefits, but the process may take two or three more months. And applying for work right now, he says, could jeopardize those benefits.

"Physically, I can't go back to doing what I was doing before as a cameraman," Folster says. What he would like to do is teach photojournalism, admitting he just doesn't have "the fire in his belly" to work in television news any longer.

"I'm so grateful," Folster says. "Just the caring from everyone has been so overwhelming to me. Like I said, I didn't ask for this. I'm enjoying this flood of love that I'm feeling from everyone. It's just amazing to me. So many people. For me to express how I feel would be inadequate for the love that's been shown to me. I can never express it in words the way I feel."

"When his story got out, just about everyone wanted to help," says former KPIX reporter **Don Knapp**. "For a lot of folks, Cody's story was a dramatic example of how easy it is for a regular guy to slip off the edge."

The care and support from his friends has inspired him, just as talking and writing about his situation has helped him.

"Hold on to everything you hold dear," Folster says. "You can be one check away from my situation. If you have family, hold them tighter. You realize everything can change in a heartbeat. Hold onto it with a grip and never let it go. You never know what's going to change."

Editor's Note: A GoFundMe account has been established for Cody Folster. If you can help, please click on the GoFundMe link below for more details and to contribute:

gofundme.com/49cjmaps

Mitch Agruss, 1923-2015

Sacramento Icon was "Cap'n Mitch" and "Cap'n Delta" on Popular KTXL and KOVR Children's Programs

By Kevin Wing

Chapter Vice President, San Francisco

Mitch Agruss, well-known to generations of northern California children as "Cap'n Mitch" and "Cap'n Delta" on Sacramento television from the 1960s through the '80s, has died.

Agruss was 92 years old when he died in Davis Nov. 14, surrounded by family and friends.

Inducted in 1989 into the *Silver Circle* of the San Francisco/Northern California Chapter of The National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences for his more than 25 years of contributions to the northern California television industry, Agruss is fondly remembered as the likable host of two popular afternoon children's cartoon shows. In

1963, Sacramento's KOVR hired him to be "Cap'n Delta" for its after-school cartoon show. Agruss remained there five years before moving across town to join KTXL as "Cap'n Mitch", where he remained for 16 years before retiring in 1984.

In a *Gold & Silver Circle Profiles* interview for *Off Camera* five years ago, Agruss said his kiddie shows were "extensions of myself".

"We decided to have a small studio set with the idea of keeping it very personal, with just a few children."

For more than 20 years, Agruss was a television staple for Sacramento-area children.

Born Mitchell Byron Agruss on June 1, 1923, in St. Louis, he had an accomplished acting career before becoming Sacramento's iconic kiddie show host.

After graduating from high school, Agruss attended Carnegie Tech (now Carnegie Mellon) in Pittsburgh, which had a highly-regarded theater program. He worked extensively in live television during the medium's early years, and spent five years in the acting company of the American Shakespeare Festival Theatre in Connecticut. As a young actor, Agruss worked with heavyweights like **Harpo Marx**, **Carol Channing**, **Bert Lahr**, **John Houseman** and **John Cassavetes**. Agruss eventually toured with **Katherine Hepburn** performing in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Winter's Tale*.

In the early 1960s, Agruss hosted Popeye cartoons on a station in New Haven, Connecticut, playing "Capt. Solomon Seawhiskers". After two years in that role, Agruss moved to Sacramento to work for KOVR.

Agruss has survived by his ex-wife, **Katherine Thompson**, of Sacramento; granddaughter **Emma Agruss**; sons, **Christopher Agruss** of Davis and **Noah Agruss** of Los Angeles; and sister, **Betty Ginsburg** of Boca Raton, Florida. He was predeceased by his parents, **Nat** and **Rose Agruss**; and his longtime partner, **Rosemary Bennick**.



Carol Doda, 1937-2015

World-Famous S.F. Stripper's Foray into Bay Area TV;
Helped Publicize San Jose Indie as "The Perfect 36"

By Kevin Wing
Chapter Vice President,
San Francisco

She gained worldwide fame in the 1960s and '70s as a topless dancer and stripper in San Francisco's bawdy, flashy North Beach neighborhood, her shapely figure adorning a large sign for the famous Condor Club at Broadway and