

For me, the first few years as a mom were okay. I was still a hungry journalist so I was okay in missing their first steps. I was okay learning they went potty on the potty chair during a phone conversation with an elated grandmother. And I kept telling myself back to school nights really weren't that big of a deal anyway.

But then, the anxiety set in that my children would be leaving my house in six and seven years, respectively, and they would be gone without me seeing a single soccer or baseball game during the week. It crushed me.

Then, I faced a new problem: what would be just as rewarding as working in the news business? There aren't many jobs that allow you to interview presidents, jog on the track at Talladega and fly to Washington, D.C., with World War II veterans. We don't leave our positions easily, or lightly. We all went to school to become journalists. Being a journalist is who we are. Face it, we are the most interesting people at Christmas parties! We don't just quit our jobs. It's like quitting the very skin we live in.

That's when Renown called.

My new position fits me like a glove. It will allow me to follow my passion of helping people to be healthier. It will allow me to make my community a healthier place to live. That's not every girl's dream, but it's my dream. At least it's my latest dream. Twenty-one years ago, all I could think about was becoming a television news reporter. Twenty-one years later, I can say I gave that career my all and did a damn good job of it. I'm proud of my work here at KTVN. And mostly, I'm proud of the people I've met here at the Deuce (yes, we are Channel 2). But eventually, all babies grow up and leave the nest.

And I know KTVN has taught me to fly.



**Wendy Damonte**  
*Reno anchor's new career*

## *Gold & Silver Circle Profiles*



## **GOLD & SILVER CIRCLE** **PROFILES**

by Kevin Wing

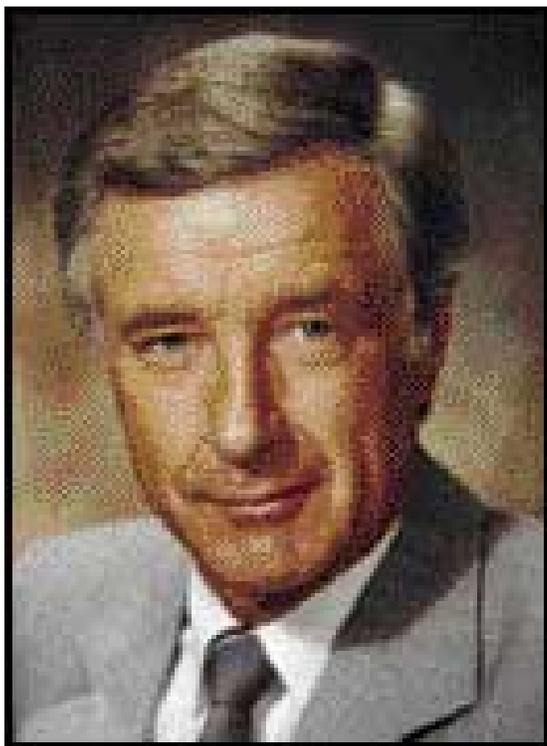


For 30 years, a reporter with a booming baritone of a voice by the name of **Mike Boyd** graced the airwaves at Sacramento's KCRA.

Boyd gained notoriety in the Sacramento Valley for his deep voice, his commanding on-air presence and his aggressive reporting style.

While he was especially known for that style of reporting, Boyd was also known to Sacramento viewers as a trusted, distinguished anchorman.

In 1990, the San Francisco/Northern California Chapter of The National Academy of



Television Arts & Sciences recognized Boyd for his more than 25 years of contributions to the northern California television industry by inducting him into the elite *Silver Circle*.

Boyd was 74 when he died 10 years ago, in 2006. The future television journalist destined for Sacramento was born and raised in Washington, D.C.

After graduating from the University of Maine, Boyd began his career at KCRA. The year was 1963. An auspicious time in U.S. history. That year became the dividing line between the innocence of the early 1960s and the radicalism and unrest that portrayed most of the rest of the decade. The day President **John F. Kennedy** was assassinated, on Nov. 22, 1963, the nation, and the world, changed forever.

Boyd hit the ground running when KCRA hired him. In 1968, he was in the ballroom of the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, where Sen. **Robert Kennedy** appeared following his California presidential primary win. Moments later, Kennedy

was assassinated.

Shortly after, Boyd traveled to Hyannisport, Massachusetts, to file a series of reports about the Kennedys from their family compound there.

Boyd never shied away from the toughest stories of the era. He became the first reporter to sit down for an in-depth interview with convicted mass murderer Charles Manson at the California Medical Facility in Vacaville.

Through the years, Boyd continued to cover Sacramento and northern California's most prominent, high-profile stories, including Sacramento's F Street boarding-house murders, and nabbing an exclusive interview with boarding-house landlord **Dorothea Puente** the evening she was arrested. She was later convicted of the murders.

Later in his career at KCRA, Boyd aired a series of reports on the subject of detecting colorectal cancer. His reports provoked more than 80,000 KCRA viewers to take part in a screening campaign. At that time, medical experts credited Boyd with saving more than 300 lives.

In addition to his hard-hitting man-on-the-street reporting, Boyd anchored KCRA's noon newscast for many years.

When Boyd wasn't working (he retired in 1993), he was very active with the non-profit organization, Volunteers in Victim Assistance. Through his efforts, thousands of dollars were raised for the organization.



The February edition of *Gold & Silver Circle Profiles* will feature **Lee Mendelson**, a 1988 *Silver Circle* inductee and a 2015 *Gold Circle* inductee. Lee has been the Bay Area-based executive producer of the *Peanuts* specials for network television since 1965. You might have seen his latest TV special, *It's Your 50th Christmas, Charlie Brown!*, broadcast on ABC in late November. More on Lee next month.

**Kevin Wing** (SC '13) is a San Francisco-based producer for ABC News' "Good Morning America" and is principal/executive producer of his production company, Kevin Wing Media Communications. He is editor of "Off Camera" and serves as San Francisco vice president on the Board of Governors of the San Francisco/Northern California Chapter of The National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. Inducted into the Chapter's Silver Circle in 2013, he has been penning "Gold & Silver Circle Profiles" since 2007.

## On the Move



**Natalie Brunell**, anchor and investigative reporter at KESQ in Palm Springs, joins KCRA in Sacramento as a reporter and anchor. Her first day is Jan. 4.

**Ian Schwartz**, meteorologist at KOVR in Sacramento, joins KPHO in Phoenix as weekend meteorologist.

**Natalie Brunell**  
KCRA

Have a new job? Got a promotion? Retiring? We'd like to know about it. Please write to *On the Move* and *Off Camera* Editor **Kevin Wing** at [kevin@emmysf.com](mailto:kevin@emmysf.com).

## Our People

