



Mahlon Rouch

February 1, 1934 - February 24, 2012

Mahlon H. Rouch, 78 of Zanesville, died 6:15 PM Friday, February 24, 2012, at Autumn Health Care following a lengthy illness. He was born Thursday, February 1, 1934, in Huntington, IN the son of Charlie S. Rouch and Mary (Winebrenner) Rouch.

Mahlon graduated from Hillsdale High School in MI and Bowling Green State University, where he played football and served as the college radio sports director. Upon graduation he worked in radio and television in Woodward, OK, Roswell, NM. He began his career in 1962 with WHIZ retiring in 1985 following many years of service. He was an avid golfer and enjoyed softball playing with the Neff Trucking Team and enjoyed sports of all types.

Mahlon is survived by two children: Kevin (Carol) Rouch of Columbus and Sally (Rouch) Stinson of Zanesville; five grandchildren: Alex, Danielle, Katie, Casey and Oliver; two great granddaughters: Jakala and Alexia; one brother: Duane (Sue) Rouch of Bowie, MD. and three nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Friends may call two from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Monday, February 27, 2012 at The Hillis & Hardwick Funeral Home, 935 Forest Avenue, where a Celebration of Life Service will be held at 1:00 PM. Private family committal services will follow at a later time in Woodlawn Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Genesis Morrison House Hospice, 713 Forest Avenue, Zanesville, Ohio 43701, in Mahlon's memory. To sign the online register book or to send a personal condolence note please visit link at top of

page

Tribute Wall



“ *Mahlon Rouch*

October 06, 2023 at 04:22 AM



“ *Mahlon believed in me when others didn't, and gave me my start in broadcasting in 1968. His faith started me on a road that I would never have dreamed I would travel. He was always kind and encouraging. He is often in my thoughts, and I extend condolences and fond memories to his family.*

Reed Smith - March 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *To The Family Of Mahlon Rouch: My sympathies to you all! I was just 12 years old when Mahlon Started on WHIZ, but I remember his pleasant voice and attitude. I always enjoyed watching & listening to him. God Bless You All!*

Sharon Yost - March 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *My prayers are with you all as you mourn your loss. Thanks for sharing Mahlon with the rest of us as we grew up listening to him.*

Debbie Gregg Janakiefski - February 29, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mahlon, thank you for all the Great Memories. You had "The Voice" that made every game we listened to with you a beautiful experience.*

Pat and Mary Jo Lyon - February 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM

OK

“ *May God bless you and your family in this time of sorrow.*

okey - February 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *To The Rouch Family, Mahlon was a one-of-a kind broadcaster who provided our family with many great highlights. Our most heartfelt sympathies go out to all of you. Most Sincerely, The Kozaks (Herb, John, Margo, Steve, Chris, Lisa, and Tricia)*

February 28, 2012 at 12:00 AM

GW

“ *Kevin and family, Very sorry to hear about the passing of your father. He was the pioneer of announcers in the Zanesville area. It was always great to talk to him before and after games that he broadcasted. For a community to have class acts like your Dad and Van and Jim to do your games was a big honor for us as players. Your family is in my prayers.*

Glenn Wheeler - February 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ *To Kevin and Sally and the Rouch Family: My sincerest sympathy on Mahlon's passing. He was such a nice man and a good friend to my family. He will be greatly missed. My thoughts are with all of you at this difficult time.*

Leigh Hylkema - February 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ To the Rouch Family, I also was one of the fortunate who worked with Mahlon at WHIZ. I worked both on the floor crew in the studio and in the film department doing editing and filming on location with him. Of course when Mahlon was around I hesitate to call it work, he made work a joy. Mahlon was a consummate professional on-air but also had a sense of humor and manner that would always lighten your spirits. I was a young kid back then, but Mahlon treated everyone like an equal and taught by example how to not only be a great journalist but a great human being. My deepest sympathy goes out to you. He will be missed by us all.

John Bates - February 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ Sincere sympathy to the family

Rod Williams - February 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ Mahlon was a mentor and sounding board for me as I began my radio career. I was a wet-behind-the-ears kid when he took an interest in me and helped guide me. I recently got together with a few friends from WHIZ and Mahlon was a big part of the conversation. He will certainly be missed.

Al Mayo - February 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Kevin, so very sorry for your loss. Keep your memories close at heart. I remember when we were in school and your dad on the evening news. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Stephanie (Stevens) Paul

February 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ To the Rouch Family,I am very sorry to hear about your Father. I got to know Mahlon while playing high school basketball, and I always looked forward to seeing him at our ball games. He was always a professional and he will be missed by all who knew him. My prayers and thoughts are with your family. God Bless..Steve Galloway

Steve Galloway - February 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ Mahlon had his own unique style doing games on the radio, especially basketball. His knowledge let you know what exactly was going on, and his enthusiasm and emotion made you feel like you were there. He was one of a kind, a great guy and this area was lucky to have him all those years. He's at peace now, Sally and Kevin. My thoughts and prayers are with you

Dave Weidig - February 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ Mahlon..AM radio was never the same without you. Your enthusiasm and over the top emotion made you feel like you were there through my little transistor radio. May peace be with you and your family

Mike Kinneer - February 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Kevin, Sally and Family, It is sad to think that such a powerful voice is silent. I have so many memories of listening to Mahlon on the radio. I could easily tell he loved doing what he did. It was more than a job, it was his passion. I just want you to know you are in my thoughts and prayers.

Jennifer - February 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ To the Rouch family, Mahlon was a pioneer in the broadcasting of girls basketball and without his efforts the fans at home would have missed a lot of great play by play. My deepest sympathy to the family; he will be missed.

Dave Bell - February 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Your father had a big part in my growing up - I started working with him in 1967 right after graduation at WHIZ Radio. Only seventeen and what excitement working at a radio station. He was a very carrying and fun person. We worked together for five and half years. I am glad I got to be a part of his life and him mine. Such a great person.

June Aitken Minner - February 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ To the Rouch Family: On behalf of all of the former athletes, cheerleaders, parents and fans from Bishop Rosecrans High School, we extend our heartfelt condolences to you on the loss of your Father, Grandfather, and Great Grandfather. With every broadcast that he covered at Rosecrans your Dad was a huge booster, perhaps even a “homer”, even though he made his play-by-play as impartial as possible. “Only a Soff-O-More” was a favorite as he explained to his listening audience that the young lad Mahlon was highlighting was doing a noteworthy job battling the upper class opponents. Kevin, it seemed that you were barely walking before you were seen carrying in some of his equipment; what a great opportunity you had to sit aside of a master! May Mahlon rest in peace, and may the prayers from us all carry you all through this trying period. Thanks, Mahlon; go in peace to the next big Game! BRHS

Joe Smith - February 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

NK

“ Kevin, Sally and family, So sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Nancy Kildow - February 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Kevin: We are very sorry to hear of the passing of your father. He is one person in my past sports years that I will never forget. I had many good times and have many memories of him both as a sportscaster and many more just him as a friend. Please except our symathy to and your family. Sincerley, Chris & Bob Wolfe

February 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ A wonderful man blessed with a happy, loving family. Thinking of you. The Booths.... Galen, Pam & Eric

February 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

FK

“ To Mahlon's Family: I want to express my deepest condolences to you in light of Mahlon's passing. I am one of many who worked with him in the broadcast world many years ago. May God grant you peace, hope and strength as you remember him. Rev. Frank Kampel

Frank Kampel - February 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

NP

“ Deepest sympathies to the Rouch family.

Nick Powell - February 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ Our condolences to the Rouch family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Levitt Family - February 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ To the Rouch Family: We are sorry for your loss. Remember the good times you shared together. Love to you all, Gary and Kathy

Kathy Durochik - February 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ My deepest sympathy to your family. I grew up watching Mahlon on WHIZ, and my family worked at both the TV and radio station. I still remember my brother bringing home an "outtake" reel, showing Mahlon goofing around after the segments ended. He was so funny!

Joe Howard - February 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Sally..Kevin..and Family..Words cannot put into perspective how much your dad was respected and admired in the broadcasting business. However, he was much more than an expert journalist who knew sports inside and out..He was a great friend and mentor to a young guy from Pittsburgh just getting started in 1974. We had so much fun and enjoyment in the radio broadcast booth and on the golf course for so many years. When you think of Mahon Rouch..you think of an unselfish..articulate friend who would do anything for anyone. He is tops in my book and I know the people whose lives he touched in his many football..baseball and basketball broadcasts feel the same way. Always be proud of your dad and his accomplishments. I will always remember him for his laughter and friendship.

Jim Frederick - February 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TG

“ So very glad I had the chance to know Maholn & care for him he was a very special person

Talisha Grimes - February 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KR

“ Thanks very much for everyone's generous and heart-felt comments. Our family will miss my dad more than we can say. He was one-of-a-kind. One thing I would like everyone to remember about my dad is how deeply he cared about Zanesville and the sports he covered. It wasn't just a job for him - it was his life. He suffered through every loss and celebrated every win as though he were participating on the field, the court, the diamond, or the track. I will forever picture him behind a microphone, with a set a headphones on, looking over at me not only as his junior statistician, but also as an extension of his life, a life lived with a deep, booming voice that could captivate any audience, especially his proud son. Again, thank you to all who have taken the time, or will take the time, to record your comments here. Your words, thoughts, and prayers are appreciated more than my family and I can express.

Kevin Rouch - February 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

NP

“ My best memory of Mahlon was seeing how he and the other contestants enjoyed being judged during the 1974 Zanes Trace Commemoration's beard-growing contest on the front steps of the county courthouse. His smiles and laughs that day were memorable!

Nick Powell - February 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CD

“ Sorry to read of Mahlon's passing. In college, I worked a summer as a floorboy at WHIZ-TV on the 6pm and 11pm news. Sixteen year-old Chris Evert was just starting to make a name for herself. When I prepared her photo for a shot during the sports segment, I told Mahlon I thought she was hot. At every mention of her the rest of the summer, he would always introduce the story as "and the floorboy's favorite, Chris Evert...". He made work fun and was a joy to be around. My condolences to the family.

Cary Dice - February 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

VV

“ Kevin and Sally: So sorry to hear of the passing of your Father. We are travelling to Arizona or we would be there. Mahlon and I shared the same birth date, February 1st, and made light of it every year. He was a grand, thoughtful, and knowledgeable man. I admired his forthrightness and humanity. I really enjoyed working with Mahlon.

Van Vannelli - February 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ Sally and Kevin, I am so very sorry about the passing of your dad. I remember growing up and seeing him on the news each evening. I just wanted you to know I was thinking of you at this difficult time. Keep your memories close to your heart, they can never be taken from you. Take care.

Lisa Bunting - February 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ Sally and family, May God bless you and your family in this time of sorrow.

Shirley Cohen - February 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ *An icon in sports broadcasting is no longer with us and I am deeply saddened. Mahlon touched many young lives with several memorable broadcasts. The Blue Devils will miss you and remember you always.*

Mike Bates - February 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ *The the Rouch family:We are so sorry to hear about your fathers death. Mahlon was a great man with a fantastic sense of humor. We enjoyed being around him and listening to his many stories. You are all in our prayers.Steve and Rose Oliver*

Steve - February 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ *To the Rouch family:My thoughts and prayers are with you. I remember meeting Mahlon as a kid going to work with dad at the station.*

Jon Hartmeyer - February 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM