



## Wirt F. "Jeff" Maynor III

April 5, 1944 - July 23, 2019

Wirt Franklin Maynor III, known to many as "Jeff", died July 23, 2019 at Grace Hospital in Bedford. Most recently a resident of Concord Twp., Jeff was born April 5, 1944 in Warren, and grew up in Mullens, West Virginia and Champion Twp., Ohio before moving to the Cleveland area to work as a television news anchor and reporter.

After beginning his journalism career at WKBN in Youngstown, he worked at Cleveland TV stations WJW Channel 8 in the 1970s, WEWS Channel 5 in the 1980s and WKYC Channel 3 from 1993 until his retirement in 2011.

As a TV personality, Jeff was passionate about getting the story right and telling it in a way that was energetic and entertaining. He admired performers and entertainers of all kinds, and loved learning and talking about the histories of American entertainment from the circus to Hollywood and especially early rock n' roll. Jeff loved music and loved sharing it with family, friends and viewers.

In retirement, he enjoyed spending time with his family, traveling and serving the Champion High School Alumni Association.

Survivors include his wife, Patsy; son, Justin; daughter, Beth (Robert) Waters; grandchildren, Chloë, Jade, Cooper, June, and Juliet; and his sister Laura

Maynor.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Wirt F. Jr. and Ruth Maynor; and his sister, Daña Alder.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, August 24, 2019 at Champion Presbyterian Church, 4997 Mahoning Ave., Warren, OH 44483.

In lieu of flowers and in memory of Jeff, contributions may be made to the charity of your choice.

Arrangements entrusted to the Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH 44060.

Please offer condolences at [www.brunners.com](http://www.brunners.com).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

AUG **24**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Champion Presbyterian Church  
4997 Mahoning Ave.  
Warren, OH 44483

# Tribute Wall

JL

“ Skipp, my friend and classmate, Champion 1962 and Ohio University, you went much too soon...condolences to your family Ohio friends. Memories of our college summers are still very clear...the trips to the Belvadere, crusin' McDonalds, perusing the magazines at the book shop on the Square...as are the OU memories...including trips home on holiday breaks in my 1962 Volkswagen Bug stuffed to the gills. And our subsequent occasional corresponding from my home here in Maryland over the years and reunions about Bluegrass and country music, oldies, your and other's radio careers, your hosting of entertainment venues, Champion days, and more. The communication is sadly gone now, but the great memories remain. RIP old friend. Skipp, we had our great times in Champion, Warren, and Athens, which live on as strong memories.

*Jim Locke (Class of 1962 Champion and Ohio U. 1966)*

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**Jim Locke** - August 19, 2019 at 09:43 AM

JP

“ *Maynor Family,  
Our deepest sympathy for your loss.  
Your in our thoughts and prayers.  
We will remember Jeff's kind and gentle spirit. Was such a fan of his on any  
station. Always enjoyed starting my Saturday mornings watching him on channel 3, until his retirement.*

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**Jayne Patrick Blaha Perry,oh** - August 09, 2019 at 10:20 PM

RB

“ I so hated to hear the news.

*Skip and I went way back to Ohio University. He was a good student talent at WOUB and grew to be a super good TV news talent.*

*We worked together at WJW and then I tried to convince him to be the anchor at my station in Columbus. That didn't work out but I used his live shot work as a teaching tool in all my stops in the TV news business. He was the best I've ever worked with at live.*

*As we both got older our connection became hours long phone calls where we solved broadcasting's problems, the world's problems and longed for the return of rock and roll radio's glory days.*

*Skip was one of a kind. Glad I got to know him and work with him.*

*Keep rock-in on up there big guy.*

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**Ron Bilek** - August 04, 2019 at 08:37 PM

DS

“ Jeff Maynor was a best friend, a true mentor, musicologist and lover of jingles and news music. A great reporter who always told a great story. We could talk for hours about the old days of radio and TV and anything else about broadcasting that others might find trivial. You will be missed Jeff.

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**Dave Sharp** - August 03, 2019 at 08:56 PM

DO

“ Jeff Maynor was a best friend, a true mentor, musicologist and lover of jingles and news music. A great reporter who always told a great story. We could talk for hours about the old days of radio and TV and anything else about broadcasting that others might find trivial. You will be missed Jeff.

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**Dave Sharp, Cleveland, OH** - August 03, 2019 at 08:55 PM

RH

“ Keith and I were sorry to hear of his passing. I grew up in Champion and am a friend of his sister, Laura. I recall the last time we saw Skip and Patsy at Cinevent in Columbus. We enjoyed a meal with them. We talked about life in and around Champion. Skip enjoyed tales of Keith's younger days traveling with his parents who had worked in a circus.

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**Ramona Hurd** - August 01, 2019 at 03:52 PM

DO

“ To The Maynor Family, Jeff "Skip" from Champion Ohio....truly left a legacy for many people of all lifestyles....the little boy with an advanced hairstyle of a Mohawk did excellent with his life. I can't say it any better that Jeff had charisma and such intriguing intelligence. Jeff could talk for hours about a subject as he was the most knowledgeable person that I have ever known....Jeff was a Man in the public eye.....but not a arrogant person.....truly a man of kindness and compassion....Jeff loved his family and his work....its amazing that he never wrote a book with all the people he knew and interviewed... and loved the movie Anchorman....he stated that the movie was truly his life and he could have written the movie himself....Jeff Maynor made this Cleveland area proud....as he will be truly and sadly missed...and as Jeff would state when the going gets tough "Nobody said that it would be easy!" Thank you for all your words of wisdom....as Heaven and the Angels welcomes one of the very Best....God Bless Jeff Maynor may you rest in peace💖

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**Denise Ochterski** - July 31, 2019 at 08:07 PM



“ Skipp and I were grade school sweethearts who kept our friendship strong after his family moved from southern WV back to Ohio by writing pages and pages of letters over the years. We supported each other through the trials of our teen years and continued to stay in touch until his death, even though we both married and raised families. He was destined for broadcasting as he often gave imagined news reports or sports play by plays from his seat behind me in grade school. Good bye dear friend. We had a very special bond, and I will never forget you.

*Judy Toler Castle*

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**Judy Castle** - July 31, 2019 at 07:23 PM

LM

*Judy, you did have a special bond, and Skipp thought the world of you and Blake. He loved that he stayed connected to you, Ham, and the friends of his childhood in Mullens. He'd tell me about every trip "home" — who he saw, who he had long conversations with, the events he attended. The town and the people in it had a special place in his heart.*

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**Laura Maynor** - July 31, 2019 at 09:43 PM

JH

*“ I worked with many outstanding broadcast journalists during almost 40 years in television, but none better and most less committed to quality than Jeff. We co-anchored award-winning WJW-TV newscasts for most of the '70s and Jeff brought quality and professionalism to every 'cast.*

*RIP partner. "Fade to black.....". Jim Hale Philadelphia, PA*

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**Jim Hale** - July 31, 2019 at 03:39 PM

LM

*Thank you, Jim. A lovely tribute from someone whose friendship he treasured....*

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**Laura Maynor** - July 31, 2019 at 05:23 PM

GC

*I worked with Jeff as his director over the years, at WOUB-TV in Athens, WKBN-TV in Youngstown, and on the award-winning #1 newscast in Cleveland, WJW-TV (first as City Camera News, then Newscenter 8). I agree with you, Jim, in your thoughts about Jeff RIP, friend...Gary Changnon, Bay Village, OH*

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**Gary Changnon** - August 04, 2019 at 07:11 PM

DS

*Jim Hale, Maynor always mentioned you and Ron Bilek from those days at WJW. He thought the best of you guys.*

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**David Sharp** - August 08, 2019 at 10:51 AM

SN

“ Saddened by this news. I first met Jeff when I was the DJ at the old "Scandals" nightclub at the Ramada Inn Wickliffe in the early 70's. He and Jim Hale (news co-anchor), Jim Mueller (sports anchor) and once in a while Dick Goddard (weather guru) would drop by after their newscast. Became friends ever since. Class act, warm, caring, humble, loving father and husband, always willing to offer advice to me as my radio career was just beginning. Interviewed him and the guys on the air at the old WELW 1330am a few times. We'd run into each other all around town over the years and I'd see him doing a "live shot" somewhere and stop to talk. He was gracious enough to be a guest trivia host one night at the Mentor City Fest a few years ago when I spotted him in the crowd and called him up to the stage. "Skipp". as he liked to be called, will be missed.

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**Steve Neumann** - July 30, 2019 at 11:07 PM

KH

“ Patsy, I am not sure if you would remember Steve, but he worked with you at the high school I believe. Steve passed away in 2018, but I wanted you to know how sorry I am for you loss. Kerri Heller

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**Kerri Heller** - July 30, 2019 at 04:44 PM