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bob lonsberry

Written September 16, 2006

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48 Responses to:

GABE DALMATH, PATRIOT AND GENTLEMAN

1. 9/16/06 6:06 PM

Gabe was a gift. A true gentleman and an honest newsperson and reporter. The good die too young. And Gabe was truly good. We can all learn from his actions. He was strong but gentle. Probing but unabrasive. And direct without being mean. A true example for all of us...



2. 9/16/06 7:06 PM by Mike - Penn Yan, NY
Bob,

Very nice tribute. As long as I can remember my family and I watched Channel 10 news from the not so distant, rabbit ears, past to the modern digital cable age. Gabe was always there. The evening news wasn't the same when the bosses moved him to the daytime lineup.

In fact, I was surprised one night to tune in and see Rich Funke at the anchor desk. Later learning that Gabe had retired. He was an excellent broadcaster and an individual

that you welcomed into your home each evening, often as guest at dinner.

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Gabe was taken from a grateful community too soon and will be missed.

[New York sex-offender list](#)

[People Over Politics -- taking America back from the politicians](#)

3. 9/16/06 7:30 PM by Nancy - Bountiful, Utah
I envy that you knew him and the positive effect it had on your life.

[Look at pictures on the Lonsberry Photo Tour](#)

4. 9/16/06 8:01 PM by Nick Tuzzo - Rochester, NY

The one word that comes to mind when describing Gabe is: C-L-A-S-S. I remember his last broadcast in which he spoke about how he lived in various places and that Rochesterians should think better of the area. He also stated that all he was in his own mind was a broadcaster and heaped praise on others who taught others or healed others. In his own mind he never thought of himself as some great TV personality. There are not enough like him. Rest in peace Gabe..



[Bob's Mormon novella "Baghdad Christmas"](#)



5. 9/16/06 9:46 PM by Bob - Rochester, NY

I never check your columns on weekends. It was only due to a mistype that my browser history brought me here. Now I understand that it wasn't a mistake at all. What a wonderful column about such a sad event. My prayers to his family.



[Downey Energy, where I got my automatic emergency generator](#)

6. 9/16/06 9:54 PM by Laura - Hamlin

Gabe Dalmath was truly a great man. He will be missed.



7. 9/16/06 11:20 PM - Former Rochesterian

Bob, I am so sad to read that Mr. Dalmath has passed. When I lived in Rochester, he was always a trusted friend on the evening news. Thank you for sharing a private perspective and confirming that he was in private the person he



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[The guy who wrote my theme song](#)

presented in public. He will be missed.

8. 9/17/06 3:44 AM

Gabe was my choice for local news. My opinion of Channel 10 went way down when they demoted him. Thanks for the wonderful columb Bob.



9. 9/17/06 5:42 AM by Grieving Insomniac

I'm grieving a loss as well. It's kept me awake tonight. What an odd coincidence that I happened to check your site. Your words helped me tonight and I thank you for that.

It's hard to lose those that have had such an impact on one' life. I'm sorry for his family's loss, and for your loss of a advisor and onfidant.

This column is a wonderful tribute to him.

10. 9/17/06 8:54 AM by David T. Williams - Hilton

Wow. I wish I had known this about Gabe Dalmath before. I did volunteer phone work on the telethons twice, and found him to be a warm and gracious man. Thanks for sharing your memories, Bob.

11. 9/17/06 12:34 PM by Salty Pickle

Very nice Bob.

I think we'll all miss him.

12. 9/17/06 6:32 PM by Dave H - Rochester, NY

Bob: Well done! A fitting tribute to a man whose life seemed to contain those attributes William Wordsworth so poetically and so beautifully described in his poem "Character of the Happy Warrior". Dave



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13. 9/17/06 8:40 PM

Gabe Dalmath was a perfect example of what legal immigration can do for its participants and for America. He and his family made this a better country in which to live. And that should be the ultimate test for immigration. Difficult to do, yes. But doing immigration the right way is really a no brainer. God bless Gabe and his family, and may he rest in peace, with the eternal salvation he truly deserves.



14. 9/18/06 6:13 AM by tp - Rochester, N.Y.

A beautiful eulogy Bob. 60 years is too short of a run. God Bless you Gabe.

15. 9/18/06 7:35 AM

Everyone you know is...like...dying. You must be getting old.

Our age sucks, because all of the people we admired growing up are passing away.

16. 9/18/06 7:36 AM

Gabe was a babe.

17. 9/18/06 7:38 AM by Jim - Webster, NY

Saturday morning I woke up and heard the two guys on WHAM talking about what a class guy Gabe was. That I was not surprised to hear, I just thought they were just telling stories. Then when the news cast came on and said he had died, I was shocked. I have not had the opportunity to see his newscast in a long time, but when I did he was great. I am glad you also knew him & could give incite into the real man that he was. My condolences to his family & close friends.



18. 9/18/06 7:45 AM by Sharon - Chili, NY

You said it so eloquently. He was a great, caring man. He will

be missed.

19. 9/18/06 8:12 AM by Pete
Bob,



Gabe was the kind of TV personality that you just plain liked. No bias, no partisanship just a likeable guy. When he was lifted from the prime time news I thought that was kinda funny but I suspect that the younger non gray haired TV anchors had more appeal to the public. Personally, @ 55 I find nothing wrong with gray hair! I watch the night time TV news more for the people who present the news and not the station it is aired on or if they are younger. Fact is that the younger crowd don't hold a candle to the more mature anchors.

As far as your comments this morning on WHAM about the Pope apologizing for insulting the Muslims, too damn bad! Telling the Muslims to "Go pound salt" is much too mild of comment, I can think of a few others! I know as a Pope he had to do this but he was right on target with his initial comments!

Muslims are angered that the Pope labeled them violent and demand an apology. So, how do they protest, by murdering a Nun and burning churches!

Do we really need to say anything more, NO! I think their action's speaks for itself yet we kowtow to these misguided violent race and faith of people. Simply amazing.....

20. 9/18/06 8:14 AM by Steve
Wow, I had no idea of this, I don't really watch the news anymore.

I remember he was on your show when he retired, he was great, that's where I learned the most about him.

That's the end of an era, one where you has respect for the

news.

21. 9/18/06 8:36 AM

To whom will the baton be passed?

Editor's Note: i've found in life that the tall cedars of yesterday are invariably replaced by rising giants in their own right. the good old days are always replaced by more good old days.

22. 9/18/06 8:56 AM by Susan R

You just gave us a most heartwarming eulogy, I think he'd be proud. Thank you for giving a 'heart' to a familiar face.



23. 9/18/06 9:25 AM by carole - greenwood,ny

A wonderful tribute to a friend and to a wonderful American. God Bless Him and his family.

24. 9/18/06 9:25 AM by Mark - Springwater

I am reminded of Ronald Reagan's response to the charge that America is a sick society. He publicly thanked the young Secret Service agent who had risked his life to shield the President for an assassin's bullets and added "Sick societies do not produce such men"

25. 9/18/06 9:45 AM by Chris - Maryland

I had the good fortune to work with Gabe for about five years at Channel 10. He is and will always be one of the classiest gentlemen I'll ever meet.



He was the consummate professional when it came to putting together a newscast, but just as importantly, he had a wonderful ability to make people smile. He never really got the chance to display it on air, but he was a genuinely funny guy.

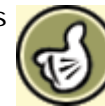
It's no surprise that in a newsroom full of huge egos, there's often tension and backstabbing. But Gabe never got involved in any of that. He simply wasn't interested in that nonsense. He just wanted to be a good husband and father, and secondarily, a solid journalist.

I think he succeeded on all counts.

I will always have tremendous respect for Gabe and I'll smile when I think of him.

26. 9/18/06 10:02 AM by Kerry - Rochester NY

Gabe was truly a class act. We watched him for years and when he retired I emailed him our best wishes. Lo and behold, he took the time to email me back to say thank you..I was really impressed. He was a true gentleman and he will be missed. Our prayers are with his family. God Bless.



27. 9/18/06 10:29 AM by Tim - Rochester, NY

When Gabe retired from channel 10 two years ago, that was when I learned about his background. I never would have known he came from Hungary in his teens. That he appreciated the freedom more was always apparent.



After the Red Wings game on Friday when Rich Funke came on with the news, he did an exemplary job of eulogizing his friend and retaining composure.

The network news anchors could learn a hell of a lot from Mr. Dalmath with respect to the manner in which they report world events and their root cause in the oppression of men who yearn for nothing except to be free.

When the talking heads speak of the "equality" and "universal access to health care" they ignore the brutality of the oppressors. It is obvious that Mr. Dalmath did not forget that.

28. 9/18/06 11:20 AM by Brian - Rochester NY

I'm sure Mr. Dalmoth was a wonderful guy but I just don't get, Bob, the way you almost worship every TV Newscperson in this town, it's just not warranted. Being on T.V. doesn't make a person any better than anyone else.

29. 9/18/06 12:32 PM by Terrie - ER

Gabe Dalmath. The first news anchor I ever watched. He was "the man" at channel 10. Channel 10 - all of them - are first class people and first class newscpersons. I have always felt that they were family and friends. God Bless Gabe's family and . . . Godspeed Gabe Dalmath. You are a class man and will be missed.



30. 9/18/06 1:03 PM by with held

Gabe made me free too. It was 23 years ago and he very soberly and tastfully did an article on the news about a subject that was hush hush. Child abuse, sexual molestation. As a 12 year old I quietly sat and listened as he explained what it was and what it did to people. I knew I felt sick whenever my father did things, he said it was what fathers do...Gabe told me otherwise and I knew he was right. It gave me the courage to speak up and end the abuse. I wish I had thanked him, like I thought of doing over the years. Well I'm sure he now knows that I am thankful. Thank you too Bob for letting me get to know him better.



31. 9/18/06 2:31 PM by Ted - Pittsford, NY

In Rochester we've had some top broadcasters at our local stations. Out of habit I grew up watching another station, but when I had occasion to watch channel 10 I remember being struck by how professional and dignified Dalmath was. He didn't seem to have a sense of self, as in "Here I am giving you the news." It was just the news. So I was saddened to hear that he died, and now I wish I had watched him more when he was still in



the anchor chair. And thanks to your column, Bob, I wish that I had also known him personally.

32. 9/18/06 4:07 PM by Mike Rosenhan - Kearns, UT

It sounds like this gentleman's passing is a sad occasion. I never saw him on TV since I live in Utah. He seemed to be just the type of broadcaster that commands much respect. Much like our own Dick Nourse of KSL. When he finally either retires or passes away, he also will be missed.

Based on your comments today about the Pope and the Koran, I am still convinced that Islam is the church of the devil. No question.

33. 9/18/06 4:35 PM

I didn't care much for Gabe Dalmath, for reasons that are no longer important. But, you made me see a completely different person, and that maybe I was wrong. And I'm glad. My sincerest condolences to his family.

34. 9/18/06 5:10 PM by Mike - NC

This neither deserves a thumbs up or down, just a thanks to him for so many great years of service. And, thanks to you for more insight on this man.



35. 9/18/06 6:06 PM by beth

I always liked Gabe Dalmath. He was my favorite news anchor of all the local stations and I was disappointed when someone younger took the chair next to Janet on Channel 10 for the 11 p.m. news since I could hardly ever catch him at the earlier time. It's hard to explain but I guess he had a certain gravity in the way he delivered the news, a seriousness and respect for the news, that hardly anyone has now.

36. 9/18/06 7:08 PM by Dan - Bethany, NY

Thank you so much for sharing this. My wife and I always enjoyed his work, but never had a clue what kind of man we were actually seeing on tv. Thank you for opening our eyes.



37. 9/18/06 7:59 PM by Debbie Jensen - Eagle River Wisconsin

I am sorry you lost a very good friend.

38. 9/18/06 9:22 PM by Karen Smiley - Rochester, NY
Good words.



39. 9/18/06 9:59 PM

Bob, I don't know why or how you did to me what you did, but you brought a tear to my eye. A small one, because I am a tough man. But it was a tear nonetheless. I too lived with Gabe for many years and always welcomed him into my home, via tv. He was a class gentleman and he just had a certain air about him, the kind that could make you forget YOUR worries after a particular hard day. I know how proud you are being a friend of his. You too, are a class gentleman, of a similar mold. (A little younger and much more opinionated, but still a class guy) May the good Lord rest his soul in peace. Jack

40. 9/18/06 10:37 PM by Bill - Sackets Harbor, NY

Bob, it seems that I seldom agree with you on matters of politics but your euelegetic expression of your relationship with Gabe was touching to a tear. Great piece of writing. I couldn't agree more on the worthiness of praise for this wonderful man.



41. 9/19/06 1:49 AM by Katrina - Macedon, NY

#28 Brian, you don't get it, honey. First, learn to spell. Second, the whole premise of the article was that Gabe Dalmath was a heck of an individual and would have been

one even if he HADN'T been on TV. He had class, grace, style and also heart, empathy and guts. He had come from a different country, learned the language and spoke flawlessly. He overcame obstacles and came through an absolute winner, without arrogance or haughtiness that can sometimes grip a person who gets into broadcasting. He is someone we are proud to have had in our midst, and we can all learn something from his example of being a fine, decent high-value individual.

42. 9/19/06 3:14 AM by Jack - Corn Hill
He was a true gentleman. I shall miss him.

43. 9/19/06 2:19 PM by George Roffe - Kingwood, TX
Bob, your on-line eulogy for Gabe Dalmath was one of class and grace.



I was one of Gabe's skiing students at Swain, oh so many years ago. I was in a class, but it turned out to be a class of one. It was a great one hour lesson and he taught me some key things I've never forgotten.

I learned of his passing Friday night while in town for the marathon. I didn't catch anything other than that he had passed. Thank you for filling in the blanks.

Speaking of the marathon, I thought that was you along the tow-path. I almost said something and wish I had now. I was pretty sure it was you when I went by, but at that point my head was a little fuzzy and my body just kept moving forward. Congrats on another finish!

Editor's Note: to you as well, my friend.

44. 9/20/06 3:46 AM by Adam - Las Vegas NV
Bob - The best piece of writing I've ever seen from you. I was proud to call Gabe my friend and you've done a beautiful job of capturing his spirit for those



who weren't as lucky as you and I were to know this true gentleman. Thanks! apb

45. 9/21/06 8:05 PM - Honeoye

Gabe was a outstanding person. I met him as a lowly ticket checker at Bristol Mt. He said hi to me and asked me if I was cold. Then later in the day, I was in the top ski shack and he waved, not knowing that it was me. It touched me that, this very public man would take a second out of his time and actually make the motion of knowing that there was someone there. Many people just keep on going and forget those that keep the ramps clean and safe. He was a great man and has touched many people with his gentle way.



46. 9/22/06 10:52 AM by Ron Wightman - Salt Lake City
What E'er Thou Art Act Well Thy Part



Editor's Note: and that he did

47. 9/23/06 10:54 AM by Shirley - Albion
A truly humble gentleman. God Bless Gabe!

48. 9/24/06 11:49 PM by Bob Toister - Redlands, California
Bob,

Thank you for your heartfelt and accurate words about my dear friend of 45 years. It was a privilege for me to speak about Gabe and his family at his service on Thursday, September 21 and to see the outpouring of affection, love, and respect that Gabe so richly deserved.

Editor's Note: as i listened to you, and the other college and boyhood friends of gabe's, i was so impressed with the wonderful decades-long friendships you gentlemen enjoyed. what a priceless thing. i was impressed with the wonderful group of individuals you were. it was a very sweet thing to

hear of.



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