



The

# ***Broadcasters' Desktop Resource***

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... edited by Barry Mishkind – the Eclectic Engineer

## **David Hultsman**

**1943 – 2015**

The Broadcast industry lost one of its best when Dave Hultsman passed away at home in Hoover, AL, on August 27<sup>th</sup>, after a long bout with oral cancer. He was 72.

He was first diagnosed with cancer in a tonsil in early 2013 and had undergone treatment which included chemotherapy, radiation and extensive surgery. The cancer went into remission for a short time until the disease returned about a month ago and he had begun treatment again.



**Dave Hultsman**  
**April 21, 1943 – August 27<sup>th</sup> 2015**

“The Mouth from the South” as Dave called himself, was born in Detroit, MI, on April 21, 1943 to Waldo Emerson Hultsman and Laura Romanski Hultsman. The family moved to Dallas.

While still in High School, Dave went to work for Durward Tucker at WRR, the city-owned station in Dallas, as studio supervisor. He graduated from Irving HS in 1961 and attended Southern Methodist University.

When the CE could not go to the NAB Spring Show, due to a family reunion, Dave went, starting a string of attending 51 years in a row. His constant presence brought him into contact with many who would be lifelong friends in the industry. Dave was always ready to talk about his love of broadcasting and ways to help others solve problems – or just learn about the industry.

In 1966, he went on to work for legendary Gordon McLendon KLIF/KNUS-FM, Dallas, building their 12-tower array in 1968 (not a trivial feat in the days BC (Before Computers). Dave also worked at KABL, San Francisco, and KOST-FM in Los Angeles for McLendon. Dave’s last stop in Dallas was in 1970 as assistant CE of KRLD and KAFM-FM.

In 1973, Dave accepted the position as group Technical Director of Mooney Broadcasting Corporation and was centrally located at WERC-AM-FM in Birmingham.

Dave then joined Collins in October 1977 and stayed through the transition from Rockwell-Collins to Continental. With the South (and eastern US) as his territory, Dave was seen and heard everywhere there were broadcasters – always ready to offer a helping hand.

During the last five Olympic Games (Atlanta, Georgia, Salt Lake City, Utah, Sydney, Australia, Athens, Greece, and London, England) Dave was able to “keep his hand in” as an Audio Engineer.

John Hutson at Continental recalls that it was Dave who helped get him his first job in broadcasting, back in 1977. They shared sales responsibilities at Collins in the South and East and had been good friends ever since.

Greg Purdue, who enjoyed a very close 40-year friendship said, “if I had problems, Dave was always there for me. Dave knew somebody everywhere or knew somebody who knew somebody. It was so amazing. I would come to a dead end and ask Dave what do I do? Dave in his always consoling manner, ‘let me see if I can help!’ Almost immediately, the doors would swing open with someone wanting to listen to me. Wow! What power and respect Dave had!!”

Dave retired from Continental at the end of February 2015.

He is survived by his wife, Karen, sister Judy and brother Dennis (Sharp), children Lisa, Charla, and Daren, and a tribe of grandkids.

A memorial for Dave is pending as of this writing (28<sup>th</sup>) and information will be added later.

A “Dave” page of memories [is located here](#).

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