



The

Broadcasters' Desktop Resource

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... edited by Barry Mishkind – the Eclectic Engineer

Scott Mason

1959 - 2015

Scott Mason passed away on April 19, 2015, after a lengthy fight with medical issues. He was 55.



Scott Mason
September 26, 1959 - April 19, 2015

Scott was born in New York and moved to Southern California during his high school years.

Radio was in Scott's blood from early on. He got his first broadcast license at age 15, and managed to get hired on as a deejay at KKDJ in LA.

When Scott graduated from LA Valley College in 1979, with an AA in Broadcasting, he was already working for Storer Broadcastings' KTNQ and KGBS-FM. He worked both sides of the microphone there as well as for KROQ – where he became well known in the market – and eventually became Regional Director of Radio Engineering for CBS. Los Angeles, overseeing 45 stations.

Unfortunately, Scott suffered from kidney issues all his life, and had a kidney transplant in 1999. In 2012, Scott received his second kidney transplant, a donation from broadcast friend Gene “Bean” Baxter. They [discussed this on the air](#), on KROQ, and in November the operation was done.

Scott was active on the SBE Board of Directors, was an EMT, a scuba diver and instructor, an instructor at Los Angeles Valley College, and was also very involved with Boy Scouts. Friend and fellow engineer Michael David Rey (XRey) noted that *“while Scott was on the SBE National Board of Directors, one of his missions was to encourage young engineering talent to enter Radio/TV as well as endorsing educational programs within the SBE.”*

He is survived by his parents, brother and sister.

CBS also released the following information:

Friends and colleagues of Mason recall a passionate, detail-oriented person. SVP of programming and KROQ program director Kevin Weatherly noted that Scott's passion for KROQ and radio in general was obvious when they first met in 1992. "He was such a valuable resource to me in so many ways. He would tell me about the Rick Carroll days and was a wealth of knowledge," said Weatherly. "As chief engineer of KROQ for so many years, Scott always put the station first, sometimes before his own needs. His contributions to KROQ and L.A. radio are numerous and significant. We have lost a cherished friend and co-worker."

Fellow CBS RADIO engineers were struck by Mason's logical approach. "He always knew how to cut through the B.S. and get to the important matter at hand," said engineering manager Lynn Duke. "Scott was also a great ally in getting us what we needed to do a good job."

KROQ engineer Rick Rippey recalled a time when he was working on a piece of equipment that failed in such a way that it started smoking. Scott said to me: "Uh-oh, you let the magic smoke out, it won't work without the magic smoke!"

Among Mason's proudest technical accomplishments are the world class construction projects he oversaw, including CBS RADIO's Wilshire Broadcast Center on the Miracle Mile which is home to four stations, the Venice studios that house three others and the Red Bull Sound Space, a state-of-the art, intimate concert venue that has hosted shows by some of the world's most popular contemporary bands such as Coldplay, Linkin Park and Iggy Azalea.

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