

Gavey, Tom

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"Tom had an unbelievable wealth of knowledge about the sports community and before the day was over I had a complete list of the athletic department heads at all the high schools, all the minor sports presidents, all the hockey league presidents, a list of the junior B Bobcats executive, a map of the city's sports facilities and I was on my way.

"That was my introduction to Tom —

he was there for me at the start and throughout my career as sports editor at The Intelligencer. When I moved over to the Intell's city desk, Tom was a right-hand man as our court/police reporter and we worked side by side until my departure for the managing editor's position at The Trentonian late in 1999."

Tom's passing was felt deeply by the regional political community.

Elected leaders lamented the loss of Tom to the area, at large, but praised his spirit as selfless and committed to serving a community he treasured.

Prince Edward-Hastings MP Ernie Parsons visited Tom in Belleville hospital on Sunday and said he was moved by Tom's courage and cheerful resolve in the face of such odds.

"WE WENT BACK 35 YEARS WITH HIS FAMILY AND I WATCHED TOM GROW UP. THE COMMUNITY WILL MISS TOMMY, HE WAS SUCH A GOOD MAN."

**— MAYOR
GEORGE ZEGOURAS**

In his last days on the fifth floor of the hospital, Tom went out of his way to make others feel comfortable, despite his personal physical hurdles.

"I've admired Tom my whole life, but yesterday was an experience I'll never forget. He was facing many obstacles. If I had to describe Tom's life, it was putting other people first," said Parsons. "He enjoyed life right to the very end. He was at peace with God, himself and was relishing talking sports with people. He was an amazing individual and I can't comprehend this area, the local media without him."

**MAYOR
GEORGE**

Zegouras, alongside Peter Annis, also visited Tom in his last days at Belleville hospital to thank him for years of making Belleville a better place to live for everyone.

Choking back tears, Zegouras said an entire city was mourning the loss of a man who was deeply respected in all corners of life, whether it be political, sports or in the general community.

"We went back 35 years with his family and I watched Tom grow up. I gave him a big hug and Tom told me, 'It was won-

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