

IN MEMORY OF ROBERT WONE
ROBERT'S MEMORIAL SERVICE – AUGUST 8, 2006

ROBERT AND I WERE TOGETHER DURING MOST OF HIS LAST EVENING. WHEN I LOOK BACK TO THAT EVENING, AND I THINK OF ROBERT, I AM REMINDED OF THE LAMPLIGHTER OF OLD ENGLAND. THE LAMPLIGHTER WOULD WALK THROUGH THE COBBLESTONE STREETS, REACHING UP WITH A LONG POLE TO LIGHT THE GAS LAMPS, ONE BY ONE. GRADUALLY, THE CITY WOULD BE LIGHTED.

YOU DID NOT ALWAYS SEE HIM COMING, BUT YOU ALWAYS KNEW HE HAD BEEN THERE. HE MADE THE PATH TAKEN BY OTHERS A WHOLE LOT EASIER TO NAVIGATE. HE LEFT EVERYONE MUCH BETTER OFF BY VIRTUE OF HIS HAVING BEEN THERE.

ROBERT WAS VERY MUCH LIKE THAT LAMPLIGHTER. I HAD NOT KNOWN HIM LONG, BUT I SURE NOTICED THE IMPACT HE HAD ON PEOPLE, INCLUDING ME. HE BRIGHTENED THE LIVES OF US ALL, EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US.

HE WAS VERY SMART, SOFTSPOKEN, AND HE HAD A BIG SMILE AND HUGE HEART. HE KNEW HOW TO LISTEN, TOO.

HIS QUIET INTELLIGENCE GUIDED HIS CLIENTS AND FRIENDS ALIKE. HE LEFT US ALL MUCH WISER.

HIS WARM SMILE AND COMPASSION LET US KNOW THAT SOMEONE TRULY CARED. WE **FELT** BETTER AFTER BEING WITH HIM. WE FELT MORE SECURE WHEN TRAVELING ALONG A SOMETIMES TREACHEROUS ROAD.

HIS ENTHUSIASM AND DEDICATION WERE CONTAGIOUS. HE LEFT US **INSPIRED**. WE WERE ENERGIZED.

I WILL MAKE A CONFESSION HERE TODAY SINCE WE'RE IN A CHURCH. I HAD A SELFISH REASON FOR PASSING BROADCASTING TIPS ON TO ROBERT. CONSIDERING HIS INTELLIGENCE AND ENTHUSIASM FOR HIS WORK, I KNEW THAT BEFORE LONG, I WOULD BE LEARNING FROM HIM.

I SAW IN ROBERT A LEGAL SOUL-MATE WORKING JUST BLOCKS AWAY WITH WHOM I COULD DISCUSS A VARIETY OF ISSUES. I ALSO SENSED THAT WE WERE DESTINED TO BECOME VERY CLOSE FRIENDS.

I BELIEVE THAT ROBERT WAS DRAWN TO THE WORLD OF U.S. INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING BECAUSE HIS

VALUES. THEY ARE ALSO WHAT ENABLED HIM TO LIGHT OUR WAY.

INTEGRITY: HE WAS A MAN OF IMPECABLE INTEGRITY. HE HAD DEVOTED HIS LIFE TO PURSUING THE TRUTH --- FIRST IN A LAW FIRM, THEN IN BROADCASTING. INTEGRITY IS THE BEDROCK OF BROADCASTING AND LAW. WITHOUT IT, THE EDIFICE COLLAPSES.

COMPASSION: HE HAD A BIG HEART. HE WISHED TO HELP THOSE IN NEED. HE TRULY CARED ABOUT OTHERS.

DEEDS: HE KNEW THAT CARING WAS NOT ENOUGH. BELIEFS MUST BE TRANSLATED INTO ACTION. SPEAK OUT. COMMUNICATE THE TRUTH TO THOSE WHO NEED TO HEAR IT. DON'T REMAIN SILENT IN THE FACE OF INJUSTICE.

WE IN THE BROADCASTING FIELD, AND ROBERT'S FORMER COLLEAGUES IN THE FIELD OF LAW, CAN BEST HONOR ROBERT BY FAITHFULLY PURSUING THE VALUES HE SO CHERISHED.

ROBERT WOULD WANT US TO DO SO. HE WOULD WANT US TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE, TO LEAVE THOSE AROUND US, AND THE WORLD, A BETTER PLACE BECAUSE OF OUR EFFORTS, JUST AS HE HAD DONE.

LIKE THE LAMPLIGHTER OF OLD ENGLAND, ROBERT HAS
PASSED OUR WAY, AND HE HAS ILLUMINATED OUR PATHS. IT
IS NOW UP TO US TO WALK DOWN THOSE PATHS, AND TO
LIGHT THEM FOR OTHERS.

John A. Lindburg
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Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty
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