

I have sad news to tell you today about a former colleague of some of us here at NewsOne. Ron DePaolis, the former Managing Editor for NewsOne, passed away.

Ron worked for ABC News starting in the 1970's and was part of the team at the ABC Daily Electronic Feed (DEF), the forerunner to NewsOne. Ron later became Managing Editor for NewsOne, overseeing all editorial coverage.

Ron was a throwback to another era at ABC News. He started in the days of film, when ABC was one of just three networks and there was no cable TV or Internet. As film changed to videotape and satellite technology grew, a new affiliate news cooperative, called ABC NewsOne, was born in 1986. Ron was instrumental in building NewsOne into an effective, essential service for ABC News and for our affiliates. He was a hard-nosed newsman who always preached and practiced the journalistic values that we cherish at ABC News.

On a personal note, Ron was the Managing Editor when I started at NewsOne and he was always available to explain how things worked and how to get stuff done. I learned a lot from him just by sitting in his office and listening. He truly loved the news and working in a newsroom. And he was really good at it. He was an incredibly lovely, generous man and anyone who knew him will miss him a lot.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Ron's wonderful wife, Annette, and Ron's family.