

Joe Adelizzi and I were talking one day about how to describe Tony. Among the many adjectives we came up with, we decided "unique" might be the best way to describe him. Forty-plus years later, the best way to describe Tony is "A Jersey Shore legend."

-- Stan Goldstein

and I loved to listen in on his post-game interviews to learn how to ask a great question.

One night I was sitting across from Tony in the sports department on the second floor newsroom of the old Asbury Park Press building in Asbury Park. As Tony was twirling his pens and typing in his Tony-only two-finger style, he kept singing the Pablo Cruise song "What You Gonna Do When She Says Goodbye" over and over with the "Duhh, duuh daaa, dunnt-tah" parts. To this day, whenever I heard that song, I think of Tony.

Another song I remember Tony singing over and over one night in the newsroom was "I Love the Nightlife" the 1978 song by Alicia Bridges. He kept doing the "Oh, I... Ohhh I... I love the nightlife, I got to boogie on the disco rebound, oh yeah" over and over.

-- Stan Goldstein

Tony offered me a job at the Press in September of 1971 as I was entering my senior year at Neptune High School. For the next five years, I had the privilege to sit hear Tony and go to games with him on many a night. Tony always had time for a young, enspring journalist who looked up to him as the Jersey Shore version of Marv Albert and Howard Cosell mixed in one. I pestered him with questions constantly and Tony even told me once time that I nagged him more than his ex-wife. But it was because I was always so excited to be around him, it was being with Jersey Shore sports royalty.

Tony's enthusiasm for what he was doing, whether it was covering high school sports, the Jersey Shore Summer Basketball League or the Phillie Phanatic, was unmatched. Tony didn't exactly follow the rule of no cheering in the press box. But that's because he so much enjoyed being part of a big event. His tape recorder was always at the ready