



Tony Graham works the phones at WJLK Radio in 1973.

When I was in school, EVERYONE in the Jersey Shore High school sports area knew who Tony Graham was. I remember and people in the crowd getting excited because Tony Graham is there. When I started at The Press in Asbury Park as a senior in college, doing bits only person in the newsroom besides sportswriters and radio newscasters. I'd see Tony come into the office and was so excited to see a celebrity. As I came to find out, Tony was hardly the stereotype of a celebrity. He was friendly and welcoming, and such a down-to-earth guy. Over the next few decades, every time Tony passed by my desk, every had a big smile and a Hi! Claire. On his last day, I was busy at my desk and didn't know they had a party for him up in the conference room. He came to the back of the office and stopped by, telling me to go and get some cake. I asked where, and Tony said, You know, up in the cake room. I made me smile once again.

-- Clare Connors McDowell