

## **Charles E. (*Charlie*) Knight**

dob 09 November 1994

**Newspaper Reporting**  
skills.

At an early age Charlie took an interest in newsletters and writing the content for them led to writing reports on what happened and submitting that to a local newspaper. It was not long before he found himself writing stories reporting on what had happened on a regular basis.

The Corresponding Correspondent was such a position. A newspaper would contract with someone to report on a regular basis the events of a specific area. There developed two types of correspondent, the social and the news. A social correspondent was able to be a bit more wordy and was pretty much the print version of the town gossip. The news section was, in the words of St. Friday from the TV show "Dragnet", "the facts mam, just the facts". The problem was that both got paid by the column inches and it was easy for the social correspondent to make 3 times the money of a news correspondent as they had 3 times as much text, much of it "fluff" and not "hard news".

Charlie started submitting things to the Berkshire Courier, at that time a weekly newspaper covering the southern Berkshire towns. Later on he became a news correspondent for the daily paper out of Pittsfield, the Berkshire Eagle. In this case he reported the news at the select men's meeting. However he had to carry the carbon paper he kept a copy of all submission to the next board of select men's meeting to prove what he wrote as the editing staff in the larger city always seemed to change it to fit what they thought the officials said and not allow the actual words reported to stand as facts.

Much later Charlie became for a time the Assistant Editor of the Connecticut Western News and later still he found himself in a public access television station's training program and co-anchored news programming there.

Charlie liked news reporting but would at times refuse to "cover" a "story" when there was really no news worthy content present. He was more interested in truth than he was in newspaper sales.

He appreciated the journalist and chroniclers of the past that had such a reputation for accuracy that their report was even favored over the person themselves who had made the speech in questions as to what words were actually said.

However, as of 2018 much of what passes for news is only sensationalism or yellow journalism and has no more respect do it than the sensationalist pulp fiction sold at the grocery check out register. It is no more than gossip when something is promoted in headlines on the front page and then a retraction is put in body text or small type face font and buried in the middle of the paper.

So often now he does not even mention that he was once a reporter either in print or tv mediums.

However, his skills to evaluate a situation, sort of observe and then "connect the dots" and see what is actually happening in any situation, stems from the reporter analysis function in these positions. Charlie now finds himself often able to sit through a meeting and at the end of it say in a sentence or two what people have been talking about or "going the next step" to suggest a solution based upon what had been discussed in that meeting.