

Harvey W. Powers

Harvey Wayne Powers was born in Washington, D.C. in 1945. He was raised in LaCrosse and South Hill, Virginia. He attended [Park View High School](#) where he was editor of the school newspaper and a member of the [Virginia High School League](#) state championship debate team. He graduated in 1964.

He is a 1968 graduate of [Randolph-Macon College](#) where he majored in Political Science. He was active on the school's debate team, the Franklin Forensic Society, and worked on the campus radio station.



He served in the U.S. Army, attaining the rank of Specialist 5. He was stationed at Fort Jackson in Columbia, South Carolina, and in Heidelberg and Frankfurt in West Germany.

He worked for South Hill radio station WJWS (now WSHV) while in high school. And during college he worked on the campus radio station WRMB, and later at WIVE (AM) in Ashland and in the news department at [WRVA AM-FM](#) in Richmond. During summer vacations, he returned to work at WJWS and later worked in the news department of [WIBX](#) in Utica, New York. After graduation, he worked full time as a reporter, anchor and acting news director at WRVA until he was drafted into the Army.

In the service, he worked as a public information specialist and later at the central news desk of [AFN Frankfurt](#) (Armed Forces Radio). After his discharge he returned to WRVA briefly and then joined the staff of [WDBJ Television](#) (Roanoke) serving as their State Capitol and Political reporter for nearly seven years.

While covering the Capitol, he also wrote a column for the [South Hill Enterprise](#) and he taught a course in television news at [Virginia Commonwealth University \(VCU\)](#).

In 1977, he became the assignment editor at [WWBT Television](#) in Richmond. In 30 years, with WWBT, he served as assignment editor, 6pm newscast producer, morning news anchor, assistant news director, news director, assistant vice president for news, assistant vice president for new media and finally as online content manager for the three Lincoln Financial Media television stations.

During this time, he was active in the [Radio Television News Director's Association \(RTNDA\)](#) serving on the RTNDA board for two terms and as regional director for one. He was president of the Virginia UPI Broadcasters Association and a member of the Virginia AP Broadcasters Association. In addition, he was a member of the Richmond chapter of the [Society of Professional Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi](#).

During his tenure at WWBT, the station's news department won numerous awards including "best newscast" from the Virginia Associated Press, "best news operation"

from the Virginia Association of Broadcasters, an Edward R. Murrow Award for the station website and a Douglas Freeman Award for Public Service through Journalism.

In 1996, he received the Alumni Sustained Excellence in Journalism award from the [Society of Collegiate Journalists](#) at Randolph-Macon. In 2008 he was awarded the "George Bowles" award for "distinguished performance in broadcast news" by the Virginia Association of Broadcasters.

While with WWBT, he championed the station's online presence. In the late 1980's the news department he managed sent out a daily news-fax to hundreds of Richmond residents. By the early 1990's, he utilized a local dial-up bulletin board, providing Richmond's first online posting of news and weather. In 1995 he helped WWBT partner with the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* for "Gateway Virginia," using the service Prodigy. Later he worked with NBC and the Microsoft Network, later MSNBC, to provide local news by computer, traveling several times to Microsoft headquarter in Redmond, Washington, to help develop this new medium.

By the late 1990's WWBT's online service had moved to the World Wide Web becoming one of the first stations in the country to have its own internet news service.

He retired from WWBT at the end of 2007 and began an [online consulting and web design](#) business. He also works part time as a webmaster for the [Southside Virginia Community College](#). And he designed and maintains the popular portal websites, the [Lake Gaston Guide](#), and the [Kerr Lake Guide](#).

He has been married to the former Lois Paynter for more than 50 years. They are the parents of four grown children and grandparents of ten.

Harvey and Lois live in suburban Richmond, Virginia. Harvey is also a Certified Lay Speaker in the Methodist Church and speaks occasionally at churches in the area.

Harvey enjoys genealogy and helping Lois with her gardening. He is a board member of and the Webmaster of the [Eller Family Association](#) and a member of the [Southside Genealogical Society](#).