

WIKIPEDIA

John Coleman (meteorologist)

John Stewart Coleman (October 15, 1934 – January 20, 2018) was an American TV weatherman and co-founder of The Weather Channel.^{[2][3]} He retired from broadcasting in 2014 after nearly 61 years, having worked the last 20 years at KUSI-TV in San Diego.^{[3][4]}

Contents

Professional career

Views on global warming

Personal life

Awards

References

External links

Professional career

Coleman started his career in 1953 at WCIA in Champaign, Illinois, doing the early evening weather forecast and a local bandstand show called *At The Hop* while he was a student at University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign.^[2] After receiving his journalism degree in 1957, he became the weather anchor for WCIA's sister station WMBD-TV in Peoria, Illinois.^[3] Coleman was also a weather anchor for KETV in Omaha, WISN-TV in Milwaukee and then WBBM-TV and WLS-TV in Chicago.^{[2][5]}

In 1972, Coleman and his stage crew craftsmen at WLS-TV created the first chroma key weather map ever in use.^{[2][3]}

Coleman became the original weatherman on the brand-new ABC network morning program, *Good Morning America*.^[6] He stayed seven years with this top-rated program anchored by David Hartman and Joan Lunden.^{[2][6]}

In 1981, he persuaded communications entrepreneur Frank Batten to help establish The Weather Channel, serving as TWC's CEO and President during the start-up and its first year of operation. After being forced out of TWC a year later,^[7] Coleman became weather anchor at WCBS-TV in New York and then at WMAQ-TV in Chicago, before moving to Southern California to join the independent television station, KUSI-TV in San Diego in 1994,^[8] in what Coleman fondly calls "his retirement job."^[2] Coleman abruptly left KUSI while on vacation in April 2014, with no on-air farewell.^[4]

John Coleman



Coleman in November 2007

Born	John Stewart Coleman ^[1] October 15, 1934 Alpine, Texas, U.S.
Died	January 20, 2018 (aged 83) Las Vegas, Nevada, U.S.
Alma mater	University of Illinois Bachelors in Journalism, 1957
Occupation	Journalist / Television Weatherman
Years active	1953–2014
Spouse(s)	Linda Coleman

Coleman obtained Professional membership status in the American Meteorological Society and was named AMS Broadcast Meteorologist of the Year in 1983.^[9] Coleman said that after ten years of attending AMS National Meetings and studying the papers published in the organization's journal, he said the AMS was driven by political, not scientific, agendas and dropped out of the AMS.^[2]

Views on global warming

Coleman spoke out as a "rejectionis[t]" of global warming in 2007 after watching NBC's "Green is Universal" week, where the studio lights were cut for portions of *Sunday Night Football's* pre-game and half-time shows.^[10] He called the concept of climate change the "greatest scam in history", and said that "the polar ice is increasing, not melting away. Polar bears are increasing in number."^{[11][12]} Critics have pointed out that each of these claims was wrong or misleading,^[13] questioned his credibility due to his lack of relevant academic credentials, and said that he had not conducted any scientific research in the area of climate change.^[14] These views contributed to Coleman dropping out of the American Meteorological Society.^[15]



Eyewitness News team, 1972. Back, from left: anchor John Drury, anchor Joel Daly. Front, from left: weatherman John Coleman, anchor Fahey Flynn, sportscaster Bill Frink.

Personal life

Coleman was born in 1934 in Alpine, Texas, the youngest of five children to a college professor and his mathematics teacher wife, Claude and Hazel Coleman.^[16] Coleman was married and divorced previously and had three children.^[1] Coleman met his second wife, Linda, at a poker table in Viejas Casino and was married to her for eighteen years.^[1] In May 2016, John and Linda Coleman moved to Sun City^[1] in the Summerlin Community of Las Vegas.^[2] Coleman died on January 20, 2018 at Summerlin Hospital Medical Center in Las Vegas.^{[17][8][15]}

Awards

- 1983 — Broadcast Meteorologist of the Year, American Meteorological Society.^{[2][18]}

References

- Stone, Ken (14 August 2017). "How's the Weatherman? KUSI's John Coleman Plays Retirement Card in Vegas" (<http://timesofsandiego.com/life/2017/08/14/how-the-weatherman-kusi-john-coleman-plays-retirement-card-in-vegas/>). Times of San Diego.
- "John Coleman" (<https://web.archive.org/web/20140404154135/http://www.kusi.com/story/12963605/john-coleman>). KUSI-TV. Archived from the original on April 4, 2014. Retrieved March 20, 2014.
- "Weather Channel Founder: Global Warming a 'Scam'" (<https://web.archive.org/web/20070810223852/http://www.nbcaugusta.com/news/national/11114421.html>). WAGT. Archived from the original (<http://www.nbcaugusta.com/news/national/11114421.html>) on August 10, 2007. Retrieved March 20, 2014.
- Peterson, Jay Posner, Karla. "Forecast for John Coleman: Retirement" (<http://www.utsandiego.com/news/2014/apr/10/john-coleman-weatherman-retires/>). *utsandiego.com*.
- "Speaker: John Coleman, Weathercaster on KUSI TV in San Diego" (<http://sandiego.apwa.net/events/4002/>). APWA San Diego/Imperial Chapter. Retrieved March 20, 2014.
- "John Coleman, Chicago meteorologist and Weather Channel co-founder, dies at 83" (<https://chicago.suntimes.com/news/john-coleman-ex-chicago-meterologist-and-weather-channel-co-founder-dies-at-83/>). Chicago Sun-Time. Associated Press. January 21, 2018. Retrieved January 21, 2018.

7. "John Coleman" (<https://www.webcitation.org/65qp1m68x?url=http://www.kusi.com/story/12963605/john-coleman>). KUSI. Archived from the original (<http://www.kusi.com/story/12963605/john-coleman>) on March 2, 2012.
8. Robbins, Gary; Garrick, David (22 January 2018). "John Coleman, Weather Channel co-founder who doubted climate science, dies at 83" (<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-john-coleman-obit-20180121-story.html>). Los Angeles Times.
9. "Search Past Award Winners – American Meteorological Society" (<https://www.ametsoc.org/ams/index.cfm/about-ams/ams-awards-honors/awards/search-past-award-winners/>). *www.ametsoc.org*.
10. Homans, Charles (January 7, 2010). "Hot Air" (http://www.cjr.org/cover_story/hot_air.php?page=all). *Columbia Journalism Review*. Retrieved March 20, 2014.
11. Taylor, Jason. "'Global warming the greatest scam in history' claims founder of Weather Channel" (<http://www.express.co.uk/news/nature/526191/Climate-change-is-a-lie-global-warming-not-real-claims-weather-channel-founder>). *Express News*. Retrieved January 3, 2015.
12. "Weather Channel boss calls global warming 'the greatest scam in history'" (<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/earthnews/3313785/Weather-Channel-boss-calls-global-warming-the-greatest-scam-in-history.html>). *The Daily Telegraph*. November 9, 2007. Retrieved March 20, 2014.
13. "Weather Channel co-founder John Coleman prefers conspiracies to climate science" (<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/climate-consensus-97-per-cent/2014/nov/03/weather-channel-founder-not-credible-on-global-warming>). *The Guardian*. November 2, 2014. Retrieved April 14, 2017.
14. "Why does anyone pay attention to John Coleman, Weather Channel co-founder, on climate change?" (<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/capital-weather-gang/wp/2014/11/03/why-does-anyone-pay-attention-to-john-coleman-weather-channel-co-founder-on-climate-change/>). *Washington Post*. November 3, 2014.
15. "San Diego weather icon John Coleman dies" (<http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/weather/sd-me-john-coleman-20180121-story.html>). *San Diego Union-Tribune*. January 21, 2018. Retrieved January 21, 2018.
16. "Featured Scientists" (<https://alncfeaturedscientist.wordpress.com/2017/10/20/john-coleman/>). WordPress. 20 October 2017.
17. Hsu, Tiffany (21 January 2018). "John S. Coleman, Weather Channel Co-Founder, Dies at 83" (<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/21/obituaries/john-coleman-co-founder-of-the-weather-channel-dies-at-83.html>). *The New York Times*.
18. "AMS Awards" (https://web.archive.org/web/20120327112435/http://www.ametsoc.org/getpastawards/get_allawards.cfm). American Meteorological Society. Archived from the original (http://www.ametsoc.org/getpastawards/get_allawards.cfm) on March 27, 2012. Retrieved March 20, 2014.

External links

- John Coleman (<https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0171087/>) on IMDb
- Coleman's Corner at KUSI (<https://web.archive.org/web/20140209053130/http://www.kusi.com/category/195823/coleman-s-corner>) at the Wayback Machine (archived February 9, 2014)

Retrieved from "[https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=John_Coleman_\(meteorologist\)&oldid=835551650](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=John_Coleman_(meteorologist)&oldid=835551650)"

This page was last edited on 9 April 2018, at 11:28.

Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License; additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the [Terms of Use and Privacy Policy](#). Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the [Wikimedia Foundation, Inc.](#), a non-profit organization.