



Rest in Peace, Marc Basnight

Sadly, former Senator Marc Basnight passed away this week at the age of 73. More about that elsewhere in this update. I have written a personal note about our relationship as it was one that had spanned quite a few years. That personal tribute will be shared on social media.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

The 2021 session hasn't even started yet and already there have been 2 resignations.

Senator Sam Searcy has resigned his seat and Rep. Darren Jackson likewise in the House. Senator Searcy has not divulged what he'll be doing, but Rep. Jackson will be appointed to the State Court of Appeals by Governor Copper. Jackson was the minority leader in the House previously. Both Searcy and Jackson are Democrats from Wake County. Jackson will fill the seat on the Court of Appeals left by the resignation of Phil Berger, Jr. who was elected to the State Supreme Court. Happy New Year!

God Bless,
Jerry

MARC BASNIGHT: 1947 – 2020

The NCFCA Board, Members and Staff offer our most sincere condolences and prayers to the Basnight family.



Senator Marc Basnight had a close relationship with the North Carolina Fisheries Association. He was a good friend to commercial fishing families, although there were times when we differed. One of those times was in 1993 right after he was selected as Senate President Pro-Tem. He introduced a bill that would prohibit the purse seining of menhaden off parts of northern Dare County. The bill sailed through the Senate but failed in the House.

By far, most of the time was positive with Marc. He wasn't "just" a Senator to Dare County, but was a native, former classmate and good friend to many in the industry. He was also the primary sponsor of the bill that established the Joint Legislative Commission on Seafood & Aquaculture in the late 80s and was the first co-chair of the

NCA UPDATE: 12/31/2020
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Commission from the Senate side. NCA was very supportive of that measure.

When Marc opened the Lone Cedar Restaurant, he put emphasis on having local seafood on the menu and personally made many visits to Wanchese for those purchases. Of course, those visits meant quite a few lengthy conversations with fishermen and dealers, which also took place when fishermen and dealers sat down for a meal at the restaurant.

Without a doubt, Marc had a heart and fondness for commercial fishing because he had a heart and fondness for the people involved. Make no mistake though, there were some raised voices and wild hand gestures during some of those fishing conversations!

Marc resigned his Senate seat in 2011 due to ALS or Lou Gehrig's disease. He will be missed.