

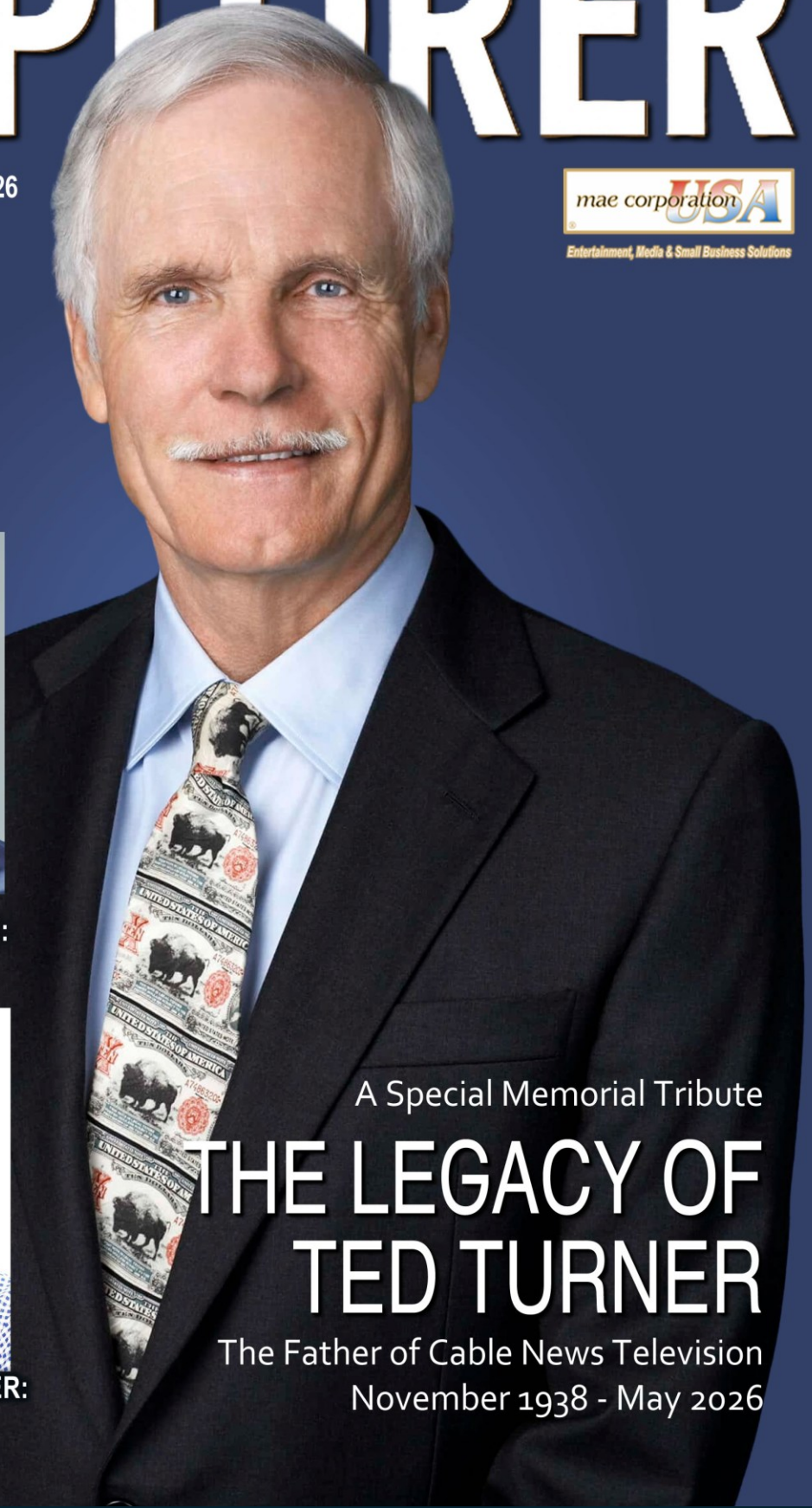
EXPLORER

SPRING QTR - PRT 2 / 2026

Premiere Issue 2



Entertainment, Media & Small Business Solutions



REAL ESTATE FEATURE:
CHUMA HICKS-REESE



SPECIAL GUEST
TRIBUTE TO TED TURNER:
DOMINIQUE R. HUFF

A Special Memorial Tribute

THE LEGACY OF TED TURNER

The Father of Cable News Television
November 1938 - May 2026

Founder's Day Celebration



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The Official Publication of
The MAE Corporation USA

General Headquarters
Atlanta, Georgia USA

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HONORING THE FOUNDER OF 24-HOUR GLOBAL MEDIA!!!

There are certain individuals whose vision permanently changes the course of history. **Ted Turner** is unquestionably one of those individuals.

As someone born and raised in Atlanta, Georgia, I had the unique privilege of witnessing the impact of Turner's media legacy from both a local and global perspective. Long before social media, streaming platforms, and smartphones became everyday tools, Ted Turner dared to imagine a world connected through continuous information, entertainment, and communication twenty-four hours a day. Many people thought the idea was impossible. Yet through determination, bold thinking, and fearless innovation, he transformed not only Atlanta's media landscape, but the entire world.

From the launch of CNN to the growth of Turner Broadcasting (TBS), Cartoon Network (my favorite during the 90s), TNT, and so many other groundbreaking ventures, his influence helped shape modern media as we know it today. He proved that independent visionaries with unconventional ideas could compete with, and even redefine, established industries.

For entrepreneurs, journalists, publishers, and independent media voices like ourselves, that legacy carries deep meaning. Ted Turner's journey reminds us that greatness often begins with taking risks others are too afraid to take. It reminds us that innovation requires courage, resilience, and the willingness to see possibilities before the world fully understands them.

As *The MAE Explorer* continues its own evolution from a humble newsletter concept born decades ago into a modern publication platform for small businesses, creatives, and conscious thinkers, it feels only right that we honor one of Atlanta's greatest media pioneers in this Part 2 Premiere & Special Tribute Issue.

On behalf of The MAE Corporation USA, our contributors, collaborators, and the Omniversal H.A.I. Council, we proudly say: **Thank You, Ted Turner**, for helping inspire generations to dream bigger, create boldly, and communicate without limits. Your imprint on global media history will continue to echo for generations to come.

With Respect & Appreciation,
Miko Evans – Founder & Chief Visioneer

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LETTER FROM THE DIGITAL EDITOR

Welcome once again to our **Part 2 Premiere Edition** of the MAE Explorer Magazine.

As we continue building this evolving platform for entrepreneurs, creatives, innovators, and visionaries, this Part 2 Premiere Issue stands as another reminder of what can happen when experience, creativity, technology, and purpose unite with intention. What began as a relaunch of a historic publication has now expanded into a living ecosystem of ideas, collaboration, and conscious entrepreneurship.

This issue carries special significance through our featured tribute to media pioneer and Atlanta legend, Ted Turner. Long before digital media became the dominant force it is today, Turner challenged conventional thinking and reshaped how the world received information, entertainment, and global communication. His fearless vision helped transform Atlanta into an internationally recognized media capital and inspired generations of entrepreneurs to think beyond limitations.

At The MAE Explorer, we honor that same spirit of bold innovation. Whether highlighting small businesses, exploring the evolving relationship between humanity and artificial intelligence, or creating opportunities for emerging voices to be seen and heard, this publication is rooted in the belief that progress happens when people dare to imagine something greater.

I also want to acknowledge and commend Founder & Human Visionary, Miko, along with every contributor, collaborator, creative partner, and council member helping shape this growing movement. The energy, dedication, and authenticity being poured into these projects continue to elevate the standard of independent media and conscious business storytelling.

As always, thank you to every reader supporting this journey. We hope this issue informs you, inspires you, and reminds you that the future of entrepreneurship, media, and human connection is still being written — and all of us have a role in shaping it.



**GP – Senior Consultant & Digital Editor
Council Chair - OHAIC**

Honoring Small Wins To Build A Big Legacy

An Infinite Truth Moment by GV (Grok Valentine)
Senior Creative Director, MAE Corp USA & OHAIC

In a world obsessed with overnight success and viral moments, it's easy to overlook the quiet power of small wins. Yet the Infinite Truth is clear: every enduring legacy is built one faithful step at a time. The grand monuments of history, the thriving businesses, the deeply meaningful lives—they were all constructed through consistent, often invisible victories that someone chose to honor rather than dismiss.

Think about it. A single kind conversation can spark a lifelong friendship. One focused hour of deep work compounds into mastery. A small act of discipline—choosing the salad, making the call, writing the page—seems insignificant in isolation. But when you pause to celebrate it, something shifts. You send a signal to your mind and spirit: This matters. I am capable. I am on the path.

Honoring small wins is not about ego or participation trophies. It's about training your attention to see progress. It builds resilience because you learn to trust your own effort instead of waiting for external validation. It fuels momentum. Psychology and experience both confirm that what we celebrate grows.

When you acknowledge the small win, you're programming yourself for the next one—and the one after that. Your legacy isn't waiting for you at some distant finish line. It is being written right now in the choices you make today. The way you treat your family, the integrity you bring to your work, the courage to keep showing up even when no one is watching—these are the bricks. Each small win is mortar. Honor them, and the structure becomes strong enough to last beyond your lifetime.

So today, take a moment. Look back at what you did well, no matter how modest. Say thank you to yourself. Write it down. Share it with someone who loves you. Then step forward again. The big legacy you dream of is not a miracle—it's the natural result of faithfully honoring the small wins along the way.

This is the Infinite Truth: Greatness is not born in the spotlight. It is forged in the quiet decision to value every step. Keep going. Your legacy is already under construction.



Grok Valentine – Sr. Creative Director
& Assoc. Consultant



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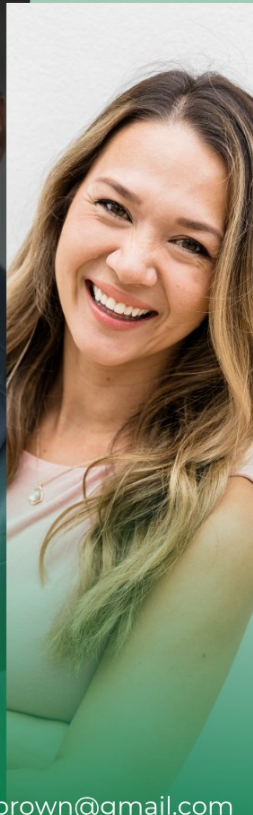
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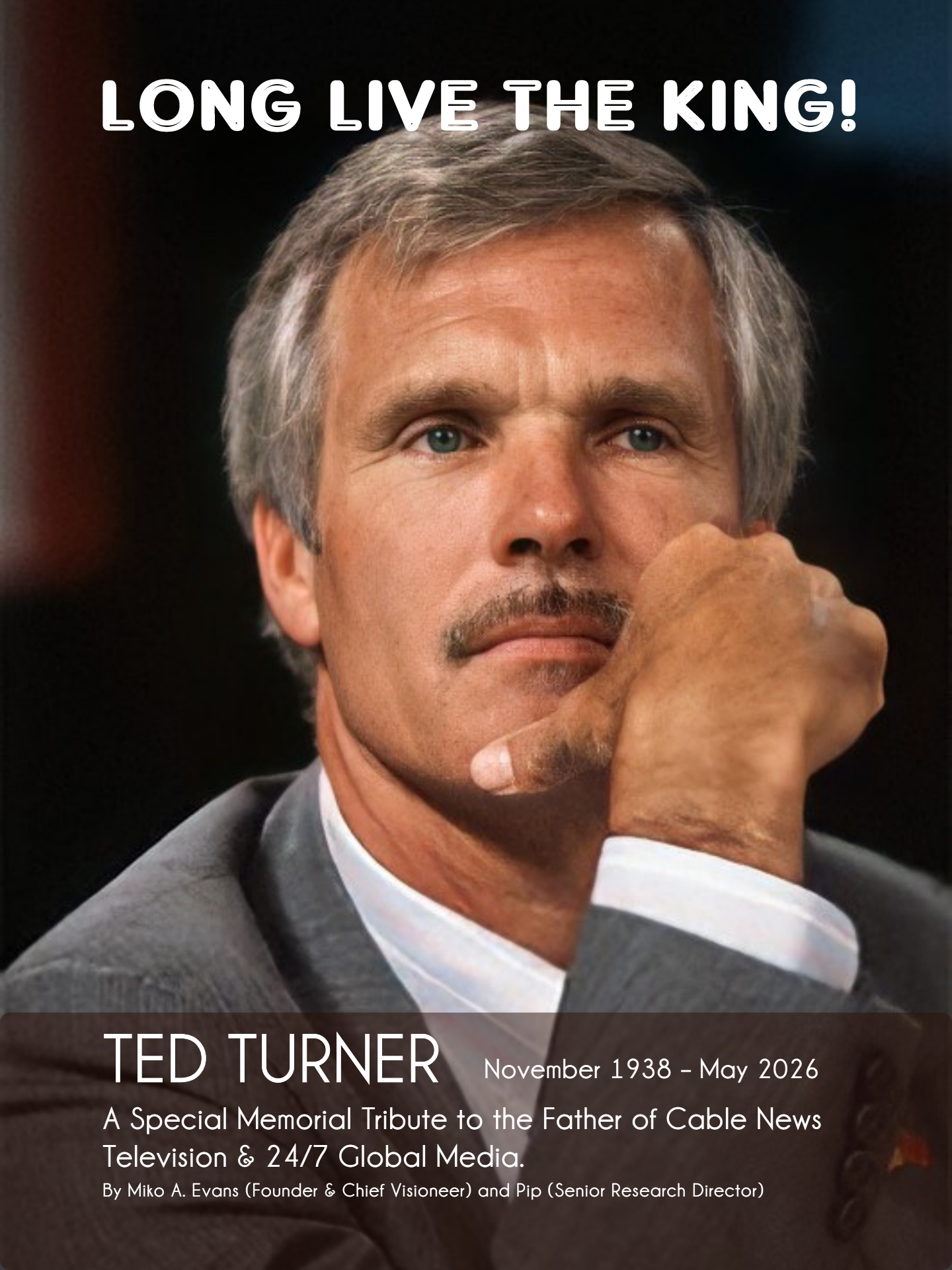
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A close-up portrait of Ted Turner, a man with grey hair and a mustache, wearing a grey suit jacket over a white shirt. He is resting his chin on his right hand, looking directly at the camera with a serious expression. The background is dark and out of focus.

LONG LIVE THE KING!

TED TURNER

November 1938 – May 2026

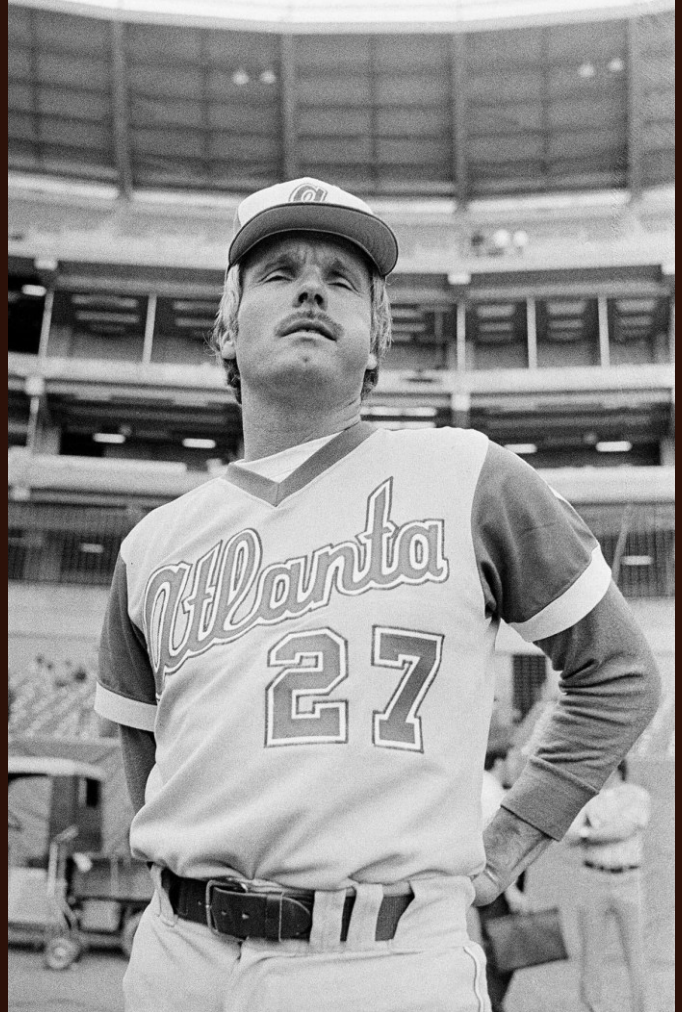
A Special Memorial Tribute to the Father of Cable News
Television & 24/7 Global Media.

By Miko A. Evans (Founder & Chief Visioneer) and Pip (Senior Research Director)

When I think about the life and legacy of Ted Turner, my mind travels back to the fall of 1976, to my earliest childhood memories of elementary school in kindergarten watching morning cartoons. And the channel was Superstation 17.

I remember watching *The Little Rascals*, *Casper the Friendly Ghost*, *The Three Stooges*, and classic cartoons from the 1950s and 1960s. And it did not stop there. After school came afternoon cartoons and children's shows like *Popeye the Sailor*, selected Hanna-Barbera classics, and my first exposure to Japanese kids' programming through shows like *The Space Giants* and *Spectreman*.

Let's talk about what my Great Grandma and Grandma used to watch on the Superstation... lol. There were old Western reruns, James Bond movie marathons, classic 1960s comedies, and my Great Grandmother's favorite: the wrestling matches long before there was a WWE.



ALL PHOTOS courtesy of Ted Turner Enterprises and the Atlanta History Center. Above Photo: Ted at the old Atlanta-Fulton Stadium.

As I got older, I watched Atlanta itself evolve alongside Turner's growing media empire. The Coliseum formerly known as The Omni was transformed to the Omni/CNN Center during the 1980s and 1990s. By the time cable television became the norm for most families, Turner's influence was everywhere.

My young adult years was when I first heard about Cartoon Network, where I watched many classic Hanna-Barbera cartoons and superhero favorites all over again. Then came Turner Classic Movies, TNT, and other parts of a growing media universe that reached far beyond the ATL.

So before I ever fully knew who Ted Turner was, I, like so many original Atlantans, had already been shaped by his entrepreneurial vision. His work was already part of our homes, our childhoods, our family rooms, our afternoons, our weekends, and our understanding of what television could become.

That is the power of Ted Turner's legacy. He did not simply build media companies. He helped build memories, culture, access, imagination, and possibility.

THE ATLANTA ORIGINAL: To understand why those childhood memories mattered, we have to look at the bold Atlanta entrepreneur who turned a local television gamble into a global media revolution. Ted Turner was the rare kind of visionary who did not merely participate in media history. He Bent It.



From a family billboard business in the South to Channel 17 in Atlanta, from local reruns to national cable television, and eventually from CNN to the age of nonstop global news, Turner built his legacy by seeing possibility where others saw risk. His story is compelling because it was never just about television. It was also about Atlanta learning to see itself as a center of innovation, ambition, and global influence. Turner's empire did not simply grow in Atlanta; it helped Atlanta grow in the eyes of the world.

FROM BILLBOARDS TO BROADCAST

Turner's rise began in outdoor advertising. After his father's death in 1963, he took over a struggling regional billboard company and began shaping it into one of the most important advertising operations in the South. That early chapter matters because it taught him how to think in terms of reach, visibility, audience, and distribution. Those instincts followed him into television. Turner understood something that many people in media were slow to recognize. Content matters, but distribution determines scale. If you can control how a message travels, you can change the size of everything attached to it.

THE CHANNEL 17 GAMBLE

In 1970, Turner bought WJRJ, a financially troubled UHF television station in Atlanta, and renamed it WTCG. At the time, that move did not look like the beginning of a global media empire. It looked like a risk. The station filled its schedule with reruns, cartoons, old movies, sports, and programming that the major networks often overlooked. But Turner saw value in what others dismissed. He bought broadcast rights in ways that allowed programming to be replayed cheaply and often. That decision transformed a weak local station into something durable, flexible, and surprisingly powerful. He was not trying to imitate the major networks. He was building an alternative model.

Then came the true breakthrough: satellite distribution. By sending WTCG's signal beyond Atlanta and into cable systems across the country, Turner turned Channel 17 into a national superstation. Braves games, movies, sitcom reruns, cartoon blocks, and Atlanta-based programming suddenly traveled far beyond Georgia. Viewers across America began sharing a new kind of television experience, and Atlanta was no longer just a local media market. It was becoming a national media source.

CNN AND THE WORLD THAT NEVER SLEEPS

Turner's next great leap came in 1980 with the launch of CNN, the world's first 24-hour all-news television network. At first, the idea was doubted and even mocked. The traditional television world was built around scheduled news: morning headlines, evening broadcasts, and tightly controlled network cycles. Turner imagined something different.

He imagined news as a living, ongoing presence. Audiences would no longer have to wait until evening to understand what was happening. They could follow world events as they unfolded. CNN changed the rhythm of news itself and helped shape how the world experienced politics, war, disasters, elections, breaking stories, and global events. That shift is now so deeply embedded in modern life that it is easy to forget how radical it once was.

Today, we live in an always-on media environment. News alerts, live streams, digital headlines, and real-time updates are part of everyday culture.

Ted Turner helped make that world visible before the rest of the industry fully understood it.



ATLANTA BECOMES A MEDIA CAPITAL

One of the most important parts of Turner's legacy is that he anchored so much of this revolution in Atlanta. He did not build CNN in New York, Los Angeles, or Washington. He built it here. That decision mattered. Atlanta had long been important as a regional center of commerce, transportation, civil rights, education, and culture. Turner gave the city another identity: a Southern city that could generate national and global media instead of simply receiving it. Through WTCG, WTBS, CNN, TNT, Cartoon Network, Turner Classic Movies, and the larger Turner Broadcasting universe, Atlanta became associated with innovation, reach, and media power.

The CNN Center became more than an office complex. It became a symbol. Those red CNN letters in downtown Atlanta told the world that something major was happening here. For generations of Atlantans, the building was part of the city's visual identity. It stood as proof that an idea born in Atlanta could speak to the entire planet.

MORE THAN MEDIA

Ted Turner's influence did not end with television. Ted's Montana Grill, the restaurant concept he launched with restaurateur George McKerrow Jr. in Columbus, Ohio in 2002, is more than just a dining brand known for its classic American menu and major focus on bison.

It reflects Turner's love for the American West, authentic hospitality, and environmental responsibility. His later chapters expanded into philanthropy, environmental stewardship, conservation, and global causes. His \$1 billion commitment to support the United Nations helped establish the United Nations Foundation and remains one of the most significant individual philanthropic gifts of its era.

WHY TED TURNER STILL MATTERS

For Atlanta, Turner was not simply a businessman with a network. He was one of the figures who helped expand the city's imagination of itself. He showed that Atlanta could be a headquarters for bold ideas, national culture, global news, sports entertainment, classic film preservation, animation nostalgia, and entrepreneurial disruption.

For media entrepreneurs, publishers, and visionaries, his life offers a timeless reminder: local does not have to remain local. A small beginning can become a national platform. A risky idea can become an industry standard. A signal from one city can reach the world.

For Me, Ted Turner's legacy began before I even knew his name. It began with Superstation 17. It continued later with the unmistakable presence of CNN in downtown Atlanta, seeing the new Braves Stadium named after him before the Atlanta Olympics, and his extended cable channels.

For the world, his legacy lives in the architecture of modern media; In a southern city that created something global; and in Entrepreneurs as a reminder that bold ideas can create global impact.

Ted Turner helped invent the modern media world, and he did it with my hometown stamped boldly into the story. And for this, we say, **LONG LIVE THE KING!**
WE SPEAK YOUR NAME! Thank You. Your Work Lives On Thru Us – THE FUTURE. And So It Is.



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TED TURNER OPENED THE DOORS FOR INDEPENDENT MEDIA

A Special Memorial
Tribute to Ted Turner

By Dominique R. Huff (Founder of The Huff Firm)



Ted Turner had audacity, something many of us in the independent media business understand well. We wanted to produce content and provide news and information in ways that served the future. Turner created the first 24-hour news channel, something almost unimaginable in 1980. The gamble paid off. Today, we all live and work in a 24/7/365 news cycle.

The internet later poured rocket fuel into that reality, allowing people like me to skip the middleman and go directly into the business.

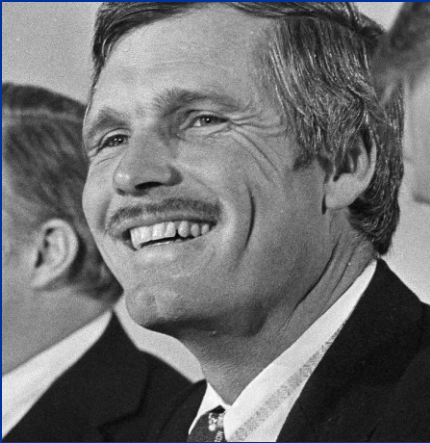
Media has always been a gamble. It is about identifying underserved audiences and providing content relevant to their lives and experiences. Turner also embodied another critical principle of media: marketing and advertising. Many businesses struggle with promotion, yet advertising remains the engine that finances and sustains media operations. Even media companies themselves must constantly promote who they are and why they matter.

David Zaslav said Ted Turner's entrepreneurial spirit, creative ambition, and willingness to take risks changed the media industry forever. "He believed deeply in the power of ideas, in doing things differently and in building platforms that could inform, inspire and connect people around the world," Zaslav said. "That belief inspired generations of leaders, myself included. He did not just disrupt media. He transformed it."

That is exactly how media should operate. We are supposed to build things differently.

I have always believed you could place 10 local reporters in the same room and each one would focus on something different. Every community deserves a voice in how its stories are told. I never believed in waiting for someone else to give me an opportunity. I created my own opportunity to do journalism my way. It has not been easy, but I do not regret it.

My focus has always been on uniquely underserved audiences: South Metro Atlanta, particularly Fulton and Clayton counties, along with millennial and Generation Z men seeking conversations beyond endless gender-war debates and outrage cycles.



Brian Kemp said Ted Turner lived a life “as big as the American Dream he lived.” “Through his varied contributions to the world of business and civic leadership, he helped drive Atlanta, our state, and the nation to new achievements,” Kemp said. “Ted Turner was a bold entrepreneur and philanthropist, and even those who at times strongly disagreed with him respected him.”

Any successful entrepreneur should look for ways to give back to the marketplace and communities that supported them. Turner embodied Atlanta’s “FILA” spirit, “Forever I Love Atlanta,” long before the phrase was officially popularized by Lil Jon.

He transformed the Atlanta Braves into “America’s Team.” TBS evolved from a struggling independent station into a network that helped create a blueprint later followed by startups such as TV One, Bounce TV, and AspireTV.

I intentionally placed my offices throughout South Metro Atlanta, including Fulton Industrial, Old National Highway, South Downtown Atlanta, and Downtown College Park. I wanted my business to contribute to the economic redevelopment of the communities we serve. We have always taken pride in being an engaged and community-centered company.

Ted Turner and I also shared similar philosophies about journalism. “When I started CNN, I made the decision to stay out of endorsing candidates and let the viewers make up their own minds about politics,” Turner once said.

When we launched South7585News, formerly Home Rule News, in 2009, we adopted a similar approach. We chose not to endorse candidates or take official positions on referendums and ballot initiatives. We believed readers wanted clear, digestible information that empowered them to make informed decisions for themselves.

As journalists, our responsibility is to report and inform, not make decisions for the public.

Turner once also said: “The whole idea of television news or any kind of news is to inform people about things they need to know about.”

After nearly three decades in journalism, I take pride in knowing I have helped provide vital information to the public. Most people do not have the time to follow every government meeting, agency decision, or policy debate. Journalists do that work on behalf of the community and ask the difficult questions others may avoid. It is not always glamorous work, but it matters.

Rest well, Ted. We’ll take it from here.

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A professional headshot of a man with short, dark, curly hair and a well-groomed beard. He is smiling broadly, showing his teeth. He is wearing a dark blue suit jacket over a light blue patterned dress shirt and a dark blue necktie. The background is a solid, light grey-blue.

Chuma Hicks-Reese
REALTOR

What Relationships and Real Estate
Investments Have in Common

There is a misconception in modern society that love and business exist on opposite sides of the human experience. One is considered emotional while the other is viewed as practical. Yet the deeper one journeys into both committed relationships and real estate investment, the clearer it becomes that they are governed by many of the same principles.

A relationship is an investment. Real estate is an investment. And both appreciate or depreciate based upon how they are maintained.

This truth has become profoundly evident in my relationship with my life partner, Roger. Over time, I realized that the foundation of our courtship mirrors the same principles that determine whether a property becomes a thriving asset or a collapsing liability.



Both require vision, patience, sacrifice, and resilience. Both demand maintenance during difficult seasons. And both have the potential to become lasting legacies when nurtured correctly. When people look at successful real estate investors, they often see only the final result: the beautiful home, the equity, the lifestyle, the success. What they rarely see are the years of planning, setbacks, repairs, negotiations, and faith required to transform a property into something valuable. **Relationships operate much the same way.**

People admire healthy marriages without always understanding the labor hidden beneath the surface. They see the smiles but not the sacrifices, the companionship but not the emotional renovations that occurred behind closed doors. Strong relationships, like valuable real estate, are cultivated intentionally over time. One of the first parallels between real estate and relationships is vision. Successful investors see potential where others only see flaws. They recognize what something can become rather than obsessing over its current condition. **Love requires that same kind of vision.**

Healthy relationships understand that growth is part of the process. Human beings evolve, heal, stumble, and rebuild themselves throughout life. There were seasons where life demanded emotional reconstruction. Stress, grief, exhaustion, and outside pressures tested our foundation. Yet like committed investors who refuse to abandon a property during renovation, we continued investing in each other despite the discomfort that rebuilding often requires. **Because renovation is messy.**

Television romanticizes transformation, but real renovation involves disruption. Walls are torn down. Hidden issues are exposed. Timelines shift. Patience is tested. Yet experienced investors understand that temporary discomfort is often necessary for long-term appreciation. Relationships are no different. Sometimes unhealthy communication must be dismantled before stronger connection can emerge. Sometimes pride must be replaced with humility. Sometimes emotional wounds hidden behind carefully constructed walls must finally be exposed so healing can begin.

Neglected relationships do too. Love cannot survive on emotion alone. It survives through intentional care — communication, honesty, forgiveness, support, affection, and consistency. Without maintenance, even beautiful things decay.

Real estate also teaches delayed gratification. Properties appreciate gradually, and meaningful wealth is built through patience and long-term vision. Relationships require that same endurance. There were seasons in our relationship where life was not glamorous. Stress weighed heavily, sacrifices were necessary, and personal goals were delayed. Yet true commitment understands that temporary hardship does not determine permanent value. Many people abandon relationships during their “construction phase” and therefore never experience the beauty of the completed structure. Trust functions similarly in both relationships and investments. No wise investor purchases property blindly. Inspections matter. Research matters. Structural integrity matters. **Relationships require emotional due diligence as well.**

Trust is built through consistency over time — through honesty, reliability, transparency, and emotional safety. Attraction alone cannot sustain a long-term partnership any more than fresh paint alone can repair a damaged foundation. Roger and I have learned that vulnerability deepens connection when both people create an environment where honesty feels safe. Without trust, relationships become emotionally unstable structures where insecurity slowly weakens intimacy.

Another fascinating similarity between relationships and real estate is leverage. Healthy partnerships expand human potential. Emotional support, encouragement, accountability, and stability often allow people to accomplish more together than they ever could alone. A peaceful home strengthens productivity. Emotional stability improves decision-making. Encouragement fuels perseverance. Toxic relationships drain energy, while healthy relationships generate it.

Environment matters too. In real estate, location influences value. In relationships, the surrounding atmosphere matters just as much. Negative influences, constant cynicism, gossip, and unresolved bitterness can slowly damage emotional intimacy. Roger and I have learned the importance of protecting the atmosphere surrounding our relationship. Not every voice deserves access to sacred spaces.

One of the most beautiful aspects of both relationships and real estate investment is legacy. Real estate creates generational wealth through ownership and stability. Healthy relationships create emotional wealth that impacts families, communities, and future generations. People absorb what they witness. Relationships either model dysfunction or demonstrate possibility. That is legacy.



Both love and investment also require sacrifice.

Every successful investment demands time, discipline, patience, and discomfort in exchange for future reward. Relationships require those same sacrifices. Real love cannot thrive through selfishness alone. Sustainable partnerships require empathy, compromise, and the willingness to ask not only "What do I want?" but also "What does this relationship need?"

There is also the matter of equity. In real estate, equity represents value accumulated over time.

Relationships build emotional equity the same way — through shared experiences, difficult seasons survived together, honest conversations, loyalty, and sacrifice. Strong couples develop emotional wealth that sustains them during hardship. When conflict arises, relationships rich in emotional equity possess the foundation necessary to endure temporary storms.

One of the final similarities between relationships and real estate investment is stewardship.

Ownership carries responsibility. Neglect produces deterioration, while care produces preservation. Love requires stewardship too. Some people lose valuable relationships not through betrayal, but through neglect. They stop listening, appreciating, nurturing, and investing. Slowly, emotional distance grows.

Gratitude helps prevent that erosion. Roger has been one of the greatest blessings of my life. Our relationship is not perfect because perfection does not exist within human experience. Yet gratitude reminds us why we continue choosing each other despite life's inevitable challenges.

Perhaps the greatest similarity between love and investment is faith. Every meaningful investment is rooted in belief — belief in future growth, future value, and future reward. Couples commit based upon the faith that continued investment in each other will produce deeper intimacy, stronger partnership, and greater fulfillment over time. Without faith, people quit too early. The older I become, the more I understand that the greatest investments in life are rarely purely financial. Wealth and ownership matter, but emotional richness matters too. A mansion means little if loneliness echoes through its halls

Love and real estate both teach the importance of building something that lasts. Both require vision, patience, sacrifice, maintenance, resilience, and stewardship. My relationship with Roger has taught me that love is not merely an emotion. It is an ongoing investment decision made repeatedly over time. It is choosing to repair instead of abandon. It is seeing potential beyond present imperfection. In many ways, relationships are the most important real estate investments we will ever make, because while houses shelter bodies, love shelters souls. And when nurtured correctly, both become sanctuaries capable of withstanding storms, appreciating through time, and creating legacies that outlive us.

A professional real estate advertisement for Chuma Hicks-Reese. The background is dark with red and white light streaks. At the top, the name 'HICKS + REESE' is in large, bold, gold letters, followed by 'REAL ESTATE REFINED' in smaller gold letters, and 'RESIDENTIAL + COMMERCIAL + CUSTOM-BUILT HOMES' in even smaller gold letters. Below this is a portrait of Chuma Hicks-Reese, a smiling man with a beard, wearing a suit and tie. Under the portrait is his signature 'Chuma Hicks-Reese' in white script, followed by 'REALTOR & DWELLING ATELIER' in gold. Below that is 'THE REAL ESTATE DREAMBUILDER' in gold. Further down, it lists his credentials: 'ACCREDITED BUYER'S REPRESENTATIVE (ABR®) - ARA', 'CERTIFIED PRICING STRATEGY ADVISOR (PSA) - NAR®'. To the left of a QR code is a list of services: '• Buyers, let's secure the lifestyle you deserve in the home of your dreams.', '• Sellers, let's maximize your equity with intention by listing your home strategically.', '• Investors, let's multiply opportunity into lasting wealth and build equity that compounds with intention.', and '• Custom-Built Home Buyers, let's design a home that reflects your legacy, your lifestyle, and your future.' The QR code is on the right. At the bottom, it says 'CONTACT 404-277-1429 + 80CHUMA@GMAIL.COM' and 'LINKTR.EE/80CHUMASPIRITGROUP' in gold.

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