

'Great,' 'patriotic' comedian Bob Hope dies at 100

The beloved comedian, who died at his Toluca Lake, Calif., home, was a regular performer for the military

By Philip Wuntch
The Dallas Morning News (KRT)

Bob Hope, the jokester-turned-giant whose ski-slope profile cast a wry shadow over the 20th century and into the 21st, died late Sunday night, just two months after his 100th birthday.

He died late Sunday of pneumonia at his home in Toluca Lake, Calif., with his family at his bedside, longtime publicist Ward Grant told the Associated Press on Monday.

From vaudeville venues to wartime USO stages, from big-screen "Road" tales opposite Bing Crosby to small-screen holiday specials opposite Brooke Shields, he kept America chucking for nearly 80 years.

The Hope story began May 29, 1903, in Etham, at the southern tip of London. Leslie Townes Hope was the fifth of seven sons born to a concert singer and a stonemason. Far from affluent, the family moved across the pond to Cleveland a year later, where the brothers became U.S. citizens. Anecdotes of his early years, including singing on subways for his fare and telling sad stories to kindly housewives who would give him a few pen-

nies, became part of his repertoire.

As a stand-up comic, he was noted for a rapid delivery and self-deprecating humor — a style that would help mold Johnny Carson, Woody Allen, Dick Cavett and Jay Leno, among others.

During the war years, he was patriotic without seeming pedantic. Frank Tashlin, who directed him in "Son of Paleface," declared that the greatest male entertainers to emerge from World War II were Donald Duck and Bob Hope. The comparison is not far-fetched. Like Walt Disney's animated fowl, Hope's screen persona could be comically cantankerous and filled with grandiose self-delusions.

A big star on the big screen, he became a giant on the small one. In 1950, Newsweek predicted, "Hope may one day be to television what he already is to movies."

That, of course, turned out to be an understatement. His casual glibness traveled beautifully into the nation's living rooms. He was the first movie star to sign a long-term TV contract — a move that sent shock waves through Hollywood. His home studio, Paramount, felt that he was being ungrateful by going over to the "enemy" medium and that his availability on the tube would erode his appeal on-screen. When his contract ended in

1957, the studio did not renew it.

By that time, it didn't matter: He was one of television's titans. As far back as April 1950, he'd collected the unheard-of sum of \$40,000 for his debut as host of NBC's "Star-Spangled Revue," the first of 285 specials for the network. Three years later, he starred in television's first hourlong color production. And in 1975 he signed a three-year, \$18 million contract with NBC. He became almost as dependable a holiday visitor as Kris Kringle.

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Telemarketers appeal FCC regulation to circuit court

A telemarketing industry association filed an appeal, arguing that some 2 million jobs could be lost

By Michael Bazeley
Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Telemarketers have made another legal attempt to stall the government's do-not-call list, saying the national registry violates free speech protections and will lead to massive layoffs.

The American Teleservices Association (ATA) said Monday that it had asked the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver to strike down new

telemarketing regulations that the Federal Communications Commission adopted last month. The regulations allow consumers to sign up for a "do-not-call" list that places them off-limits to telemarketing calls.

The ATA also asked the FCC for an immediate stay of its new rules while the court considers its petition.

"Two million jobs will be lost, and we don't see them coming back," said Tim Searcy, ATA executive director.

The do-not-call list opened June 27, and as of Monday, consumers had placed 28.7 million phone numbers on the list. Starting in September, telemarketers will be required to pur-

chase the list and scrub the phone numbers from their marketing lists.

The Federal Trade Commission, which first created the program, will begin enforcing the list Oct. 1. Violations could result in fines of up to \$11,000.

Exempt from the regulations are calls from charities, political organizations, survey companies, some insurance firms and companies that have an existing business relationship with a consumer.

In its complaint filed with the FCC, the ATA said that the new rules contain "serious First Amendment and Equal Protection problems" because they throw a "pre-emptive blanket

over only commercial telemarketers ... while granting free license for political, religious and non-profit calls."

The ATA added that the "reduction in telemarketing will mean sacrificing 40 to 60 percent of the industry, accounting for over two million jobs."

"There already exist a bunch of voluntary do-not-call lists," Searcy said, referring to a registry operated by the Direct Marketing Association and others run by individual companies. "I think the government should get out of the do-not-call list business."

An FCC spokesman said the agency would not comment.

But the FCC said when it released

the new rules that they are consistent with the First Amendment because the commission has a "substantial governmental interest in protecting residential privacy" and "telemarketing calls are a substantial invasion of residential privacy."

About half a dozen legal actions have been taken against the do-not-call list. All of them are pending court action, and government officials said they do not expect them to delay the program.

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Firefighters

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can't do more than 10 push-ups."

Other nicknames stem from the friendships built during the fire season. Oregon State University senior Marc Andresen is called "Puffer" because of his love for cigarettes. Other nicknames include "Shorts," "Stretch" and "Cinderella."

Despite the friendships, Andresen says tension quickly builds within the 20-person squads.

"The jokes that were funny on day one aren't so funny on day 10," he says, adding that it doesn't stop the classic "rock monster" jokes. The rock monster, Andresen explains, preys on

the new firefighters by putting rocks in their bags.

Andresen mainly does mop-up work, along with many other University students. Dustin McCluskey, a University junior, says mop up entails activities such as extinguishing fires that are burning in tree stumps or underground. He adds that while doing mop up is necessary, he prefers working closer to the fire.

University senior Angel Landin agrees. "When you see the fire burning and devouring the land, it's impressive," he says.

As of Monday evening, the Clark fire had burned 4,964 acres and had been 70 percent contained, according to the Oregon Department of

Forestry. The fire is expected to be fully contained by July 30, and the Department of Forestry has started sending some firefighting crews home or to other fires.

University sophomore Brandon Chandler worked on recovering pieces from the Columbia space shuttle before making his way to the Clark fire. Chandler says he enjoys the intensity — as well as the money — that firefighting brings.

"It's a rush when there's a 15-foot flame right in front of your face," he says.

Chandler also says the campgrounds provided for the firefighters are pretty nice. Ciciriello agrees, adding that he is grateful for the

showers because the firefighters are "pretty gross by the end of the day."

As dusk approaches, many sit in the mess hall to play cards and drink — non-alcoholic beverages, per firefighting regulations.

"Chocolate milk is good," Dopp says.

Andresen says that while he enjoys

playing cards, the best part of firefighting for him is the appreciation.

"There are signs that people wave at us, little kids running down the street," he says. "It makes you feel really good about your job."

All Shaughnessy is a freelance reporter for the Emerald.

Bill

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should apply for illegal immigrants."

Jasmin Thana, a University student and the interim co-chair of the Oregon Students of Color Coalition, said the bill will help many students of Hispanic origin. She said the coalition has supported both bills.

"We have been there from the

beginning," she said.

Thana said members of the coalition testified in support of the bill before the House Rules Committee, sent letters of support to various legislators and organized a rally in Salem earlier last month.

Rep. Pat Farr, R-Eugene, believes that new bill will have less impact than the original but will receive more support in both the House and

Senate because of the changes.

Farr added that granting only those with citizenship or legal resident status with in-state tuition made the bill more appealing to many legislators.

"That's the change that I think will allow it to pass the Legislature," he said.

Contact the reporter at shoikeda@dailymerald.com.

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