



Dave Grant - Carl E. Lee Radio Nomination – Nominated 2024

Director of Engineering, Great Lakes Region, Cumulus (Grand Rapids)

Nominated by Mark Wittkoski, Senior Maintenance Engineer, WGVU Public Media (Grand Rapids)

Nomination

Dave Grant's radio career began in 1977 as a board operator at WKBZ in Muskegon running Detroit Tigers baseball games and eventually moved up to a phone screener position. In 1979 Dave began working in Whitehall at 1490 WLRQ as an on-air personality and started getting into engineering by repairing equipment around the facility while working with their engineer.

Between 1983 and 1993, Dave served as the Chief Engineer for numerous broadcast entities such as Gulfstream Broadcasting in West Palm Beach Florida, Liggett Broadcasting and Adams Radio in Grand Rapids.

Dave stepped away from Broadcasting for several years to serve as the Installation and Maintenance Manager at Brooks Fiber Communications, AKA WorldCom, MCI, Verizon Business in Grand Rapids. He was also responsible for large sections of the Verizon Business local and long-distance fiber network in Michigan. Dave supervised, trained, and assisted staff in matters relating to the installation and testing of new or established customer needs.

From Nov 2006 - Feb 2009, Dave took on challenge of being the Manager of Verizon Business, Baghdad Iraq, Mid East Operations. He supervised all aspects of the Verizon International switch gateway in Baghdad. His duties included equipment maintenance and installation, fiber optics installation, AC and DC power management. He also interacted and represented Verizon with United States Government officials, as well as United States and Iraqi Military officials on a regular basis.

In August of 2012 Dave took the position as Chief Engineer for Cumulus Media Grand Rapids. He maintains six AM-FM radio broadcast facilities and assists with four additional stations in Muskegon. Some of his accomplishments include relocating the heritage station WLAV-FM when they lost their lease as the land was sold to a developer and handled the relocation of WLAW-FM from Whitehall to Montague during the same time frame. Dave's most recent accomplishments are upgrading four of these broadcast facilities to solid state transmitters and converting the Grand Rapids operations to Livewire IP Audio.

Dave holds the Professional Broadcast Engineer Certification through the Society of Broadcast Engineers and is a founding member of SBE Chapter 102 in Grand Rapids. Over the years he has at one point served in every board position and is currently serving as the Chapters Secretary.

Dave is more than just a broadcast engineer as he also has found himself doing maintenance on

generators that should have been retired years ago. He is one that can think creatively and always produces a solution. He always finds a way to keep old technology alive! Dave is a great mentor to all as he is always sharing his years of knowledge and explaining to staff how equipment works. Dave is an excellent candidate to receive the Carl E. Lee Broadcast Engineering Excellence Award.