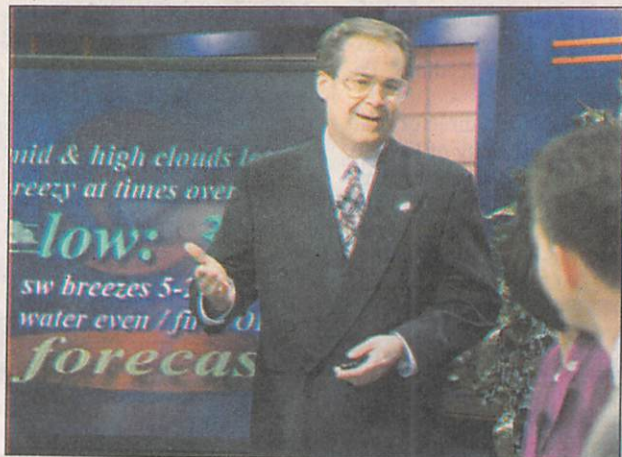


TV weatherman Jim Gamble dies at 60



TIMES FILE PHOTO

Weatherman Jim Gamble gives the weather forecast for El Paso in 1999. He died Wednesday at age 60.

By **Daniel Borunda**
EL PASO TIMES

Former longtime El Paso television weatherman Jim Gamble died Wednesday. He was 60.

Gamble was well known on local television for 20 years, having worked up and down the dial at Channel 7-KVIA, Channel 9-KTSM and Channel 4-KDBC.

KVIA reported that Gamble died of pancreatic cancer. He is survived by his wife and two sons. Funeral services have not been announced.

Gamble had a no-frills on-air style that gained him a follow-



► Sign a guest book for Jim Gamble.

ing. In 1999, El Paso Times readers selected Gamble as their favorite weatherperson in the annual "Best of the Border" contest when he was at KDBC.

Gamble was a self-taught weather expert and an amateur astronomer who would watch the skies for meteor showers.

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Gamble

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He had said he was honored that El Pasoans watched his weather forecast.

"I'm just the kind of guy who loves weather and loves to talk to people about weather," Gamble said.

Former co-workers described Gamble as a person who was likable on and off camera in a business that can often be tough.

Roy Ortega was an anchor at

KVIA when he met Gamble getting his start on local television in the 1980s.

Ortega and Gamble also worked together at KTSM in the late 1990s.

"I was actually there when he walked into the newsroom for the very first time," Ortega recalled. "He had an audition. He had a natural talent for being on the air."

During his time at KVIA, Gamble got in trouble for an April Fool's Day prank when he forecast that El Paso would get eight inches of snow.

After the station's phones lit

up with complaints, Gamble was suspended for a week without pay, Times archives stated.

In the 1990s, Gamble worked at KTSM before leaving to do the weather at KDBC. Gamble left KDBC to pursue other interests in 2003, according to archives.

"He was a positive person," said Channel 14-KFOX anchor Erika Castillo, who worked with Gamble at KTSM.

"He always saw the sun shining before he saw the clouds," Castillo said. "He was very stable. In all the funny

personalities in this business, he was a real grounded family person and he truly never said anything negative about anyone.

"It always makes you feel funny when someone you worked with closely has passed away," she said. "It's sad for the profession. He contributed to broadcasting in El Paso in a very positive way."

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