

KOB



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STEVE STUCKER RE-SETS MORNINGS ON KOB4

Albuquerque, New Mexico - 2:30 a.m. That's an early wake-up call for almost anybody. But for the last 33 years, that's where KOB4's Steve Stucker has been setting his alarm. Now, Stucker says, it's time to sleep in a bit. And he will have the chance to do that starting at the end of March, when he will sign-off for the last time as the KOB4's Morning Show weathercaster. KOB4 morning fans will have a chance to meet Steve as he tours the state on a "THANKS, NEW MEXICO" tour during April and May. And there are more Stucker/KOB4 projects in the works, including Balloon Fiesta fun.

"It's a little hard to believe it myself, but the end of my daily TV career is finally here. I've absolutely enjoyed this job, for literally half of my life! I'm extremely pleased to have been able to complete my entire TV career with just one station. I can't say I'll miss that alarm, but I sure will miss our 'Dark & Early TV family'", Stucker said.

"Nobody ever accomplishes anything worthwhile on their own, and I'm so grateful KOB4 has always surrounded me with such high quality partners and co-workers", he continued. "It's been a 33 year love affair with the people of New Mexico, that I expect to last the rest of my life. I'm just ready to get a little more sleep and then move forward into my next chapter."

That next chapter will likely be defined by another reason New Mexico loves him so much-- the community faith-based and charity work Stucker is known for. His own charity, Beds 4 Kidz has provided beds for the state's needy children and families. He has sat by the bedsides of countless patients, performed marriages, baptisms, and officiated at funerals. His messaging for motorcycle safety, his blood donations; it's all been part of a life crammed with service-to-others.

"I honestly can't think of anyone I've known in my own broadcasting career who merged his on-air life so well with the way he lived off-camera", said Michelle Donaldson, KOB General Manager. "Steve is what you see - and that's a lot! KOB4 has been so lucky to have been Steve's broadcast home and we are not about to let him leave our family circle, so we're starting out with the spring "THANKS, NEW MEXICO!" tour, plus already working on special projects for the year."

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Stucker started his long career at KOB4 in 1990 and from the start, New Mexicans knew they were watching somebody who loved his job—and a lot of other things in life. Over the years, they've met almost a dozen Steve Stucker dogs, watched as he helped homeless pets and admired the pics people sent him of their own pets. He's celebrated holidays in crazy ways--nobody on local tv has ever done Halloween better than Steve Stucker as he rocked Elvis, and did a take on his mom as "Mother Stucker".

Paddy-o-Furniture came out for St. Patrick's Day and the morning team wasn't surprised to have other Stucker characters show up throughout the year. And, at Balloon Fiesta, his signature pin-laden jacket and top hat were magnets for all those who wanted pictures as he handed out his own trading cards.

His knowledge of New Mexico weather was always coupled with humor and a little extra fun, helping to get many a morning off on a right track as he gave that signature grin and sign-off wish for a good day.

"I don't see this as retiring, as much as retooling. I've got hopes for some new ministry ideas in the near future and plan to stay very active in the community. I'm already in touch with my KOB4 teammates on some exciting projects we plan to work together on in the near future," Stucker explained.

"I will always treasure the wonderful people who have allowed me into their homes, making a life out of something I have so much fun doing. I've been blessed so much more than I deserve and my heart will always be filled with gratitude to those who've made it possible. Thank YOU New Mexico for staying tuned!"

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