

ARTICLE 19 VOTE/STREET NAME “MAGLIOZZI BOULEVARD”

Submitted by Paul Schlichtman, TMM, Precinct 9



An unnamed public way at this busy location is a risk to public safety.

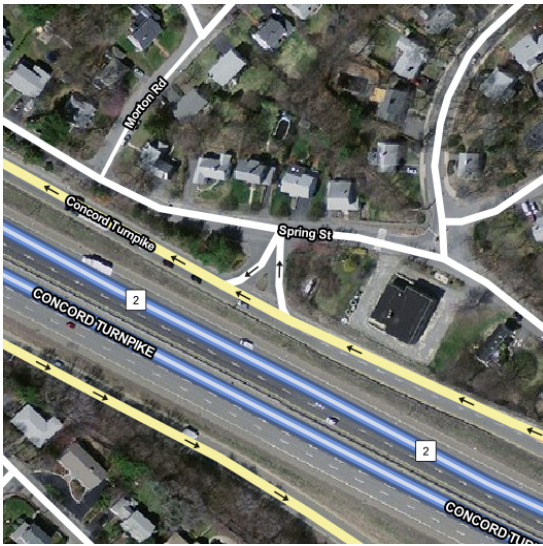
Without a street name, reporting an accident or incident at this location is extremely challenging. Article 19 offers the opportunity to solve this problem by naming this public way.

Uncle Sam (Samuel Wilson) was born in Arlington, but he left town as a very young child. He packed his pork in Troy, New York, but he has a big monument in Arlington Center.

Unlike Uncle Sam, who chose to live elsewhere, Tom and Ray Magliozzi are famous and beloved figures who chose to live in Arlington. They have brought joy to their neighbors and the nation with their Car Talk radio program. Article 19 offers the opportunity for Arlington to bring joy to Car Talk fans by renaming this busy little boulevard. GPS devices, which now direct people to turn at an unnamed street, will send people for short, happy trips on Magliozzi Boulevard.



Tom Magliozzi parked his legendary Dodge Dart in front of his home on Jason Street.



The location of the proposed Magliozzi Boulevard.

Two FAQs about Article 19:

Does Town Meeting have the authority to name a street?

Yes. There is considerable precedent, the most recent was a Town Meeting vote 10 years ago. Under Article 28 of the 2012 Annual Town Meeting, it was voted to standardize the spelling of Albermarle Street, Mt. Vernon Street, and Waverly Street. The article was submitted at the request of the Town Manager, and the Board of Selectmen unanimously recommended favorable action by Town Meeting. Albemarle Street was originally named by a vote in the 1916 Town Meeting, Mt. Vernon Street named by a vote of the 1929 Town Meeting, and Waverly Street was named by votes of the 1950 and 1957 Town Meeting. This article was necessary as different town-maintained lists had different spellings for these street names, and they needed to be consolidated for incorporation into the towns Geographic Information System (GIS).

What about the Public Memorial Committee?

Although the Select Board report suggests this proposal should be presented to the Public Memorials Committee before coming to Town Meeting, that is not a viable option.

Although the Select Board is charged with making annual appointments to the Public Memorial Committee, terms of members listed on the town's website expired in 2016, 2017, and 2018. A search of the town website fails to provide any agendas or minutes for meetings dated after May 9, 2005.

ARTICLE 4: PUBLIC MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Section 1. Public Memorial Committee Established

There is hereby established a Public Memorial Committee established for the purpose of memorializing and officially recognizing those persons whose exemplary accomplishments have reflected credit and honor upon the Town of Arlington, in accordance with certain criteria established and set forth in writing by the Committee. Said Committee shall be the official source for memorialization of persons by the Town.

Section 2. Membership

The Committee shall consist of five registered voters of the Town, to be appointed by the Select Board. Two shall be appointed for a term of three years and two for a term of two years and one for a term of one year; all to serve until their respective successors are duly appointed and qualified. Thereafter, the said appointing authority to appoint annually such number of members as there are terms expiring in such year to serve for a period of three years and until their respective successors shall be duly appointed and qualified; vacancies to be filled by appointment in the same manner as original appointments for the period of the unexpired term; said Committee to choose annually from its members such officers as it shall deem advisable. No member of the Committee shall be an employee of the Town of Arlington or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Section 3. Veterans Subcommittee

The Committee shall be empowered to appoint a veterans' subcommittee composed of one representative from each of the veterans' organizations within the Town; said subcommittee to make recommendations of individuals to be considered by the Committee for memorialization as a result of exemplary military service.

Events

No results found.

Members

Salipante, Alexander
Public Memorial Committee, Chair,
6/2017
 ajsalipante@yahoo.com

Copithorne, William
Public Memorial Committee,
6/2017

Corbett, Dennis
Public Memorial Committee,
4/2016

O'Neill, Eugene
Public Memorial Committee,
3/2018

St. Martin, Wilfred
Public Memorial Committee,
3/2018

Tom Magliozzi Obituary

June 28, 1937 - November 3, 2014 • <https://www.cartalk.com/content/tom-magliozzi-obituary>

Tom Magliozzi who, along with his brother Ray, hosted NPR's hit comedy show *Car Talk* for the last 37 years, died Monday morning from complications of Alzheimer's Disease. "Turns out he wasn't kidding," said Ray. "He really couldn't remember last week's puzzler."

Tom Magliozzi was born June 28, 1937, in an East Cambridge, Massachusetts neighborhood filled with other Italian immigrant families. It was there that he and his younger brother Ray picked up the uniquely Boston-Italian style of expressing affection through friendly insults and teasing. That style was at the heart of their banter with each other, and their listeners, on the radio show that made them beloved guests in millions of homes every Saturday morning.

Tom was the first in his family to attend college, enrolling at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he earned a degree in Chemical Engineering. He applied that degree to research and consulting jobs until, in his late 20s, he was making his tedious 45-minute commute in traffic one morning, had a near miss with another car, and had a revelation that he was wasting his life. Upon arriving at work, he walked into his boss' office and quit on the spot. He hated putting on a suit and working in the 9-to-5 world.

"He actually hated working in any world," says his brother Ray. "Later on, when we were doing *Car Talk*, he would come in late and leave early. We used to warn him that if he left work any earlier, he'd pass himself coming in."

As Tom once described his own attitude to his listeners, "Don't be afraid of work. Make work afraid of you. I did such a fabulous job of making work afraid of me that it has avoided me my whole life so far."

After a period spent happily as a Harvard Square bum, a house painter, an inventor, a successful Ph.D. student, and an auto mechanic, *Car Talk* became his focus, and Tom spent the rest of his working life doing what he was born to do. "Making friends, philosophizing, thinking out loud, solving people's problems, and laughing his butt off," says Ray.

The radio show began as a fluke. Someone from Boston's local public radio station, WBUR, booked an on-air panel of six car mechanics from the area. Tom was the only one who showed up. "I was a panel of one," he later said. He was impressive enough to be asked back the following week, when he brought along his fellow mechanic and kid brother, Ray, and *Car Talk* was born.

Over the 10 years the brothers did the show locally, on a volunteer basis, they slowly injected more and more humor and off-topic diversions into their discussions of carburetors and wheel bearings — following their natural curiosity and pushing the limits for what was then a typically decorous public radio station. "Since we weren't making any money, we figured we might as well have fun," said Tom.

The brothers' unique combination of hilarious, self-deprecating banter and trustworthy advice was picked up by NPR in 1987, and *Car Talk* soon became the network's most popular entertainment program ever, reaching audiences of more than four-million people a week. The program has continued to be a top-rated show on NPR stations in syndication, even after the guys stopped recording new shows in 2012.

Along with the solid car advice he dispensed on the radio show with his brother, Tom often took on the additional roles of philosopher king, life advisor, moral scold, and family counselor.

"He'd always ask guys who were in a dispute with their wives or girlfriends one question: 'Would you rather be right, or would you rather be happy?'" said Ray. "In his own personal life, Tom always chose 'right,' hence he leaves behind two wives, and a passel of children and grandchildren." He is survived by his first wife Julia Magliozzi; second wife, Joanne Magliozzi; his children, Lydia Icke, Alex, and Anna Magliozzi; his brother Ray Magliozzi; his sister Lucille Magliozzi; five grandchildren; and his close companion of recent years, Sylvia Soderberg. He was predeceased by his parents, Elizabeth and Louis Magliozzi.

"He and his brother changed public broadcasting forever," said Doug Berman, the brothers' longtime producer. "Before *Car Talk*, NPR was formal, polite, cautious...even stiff. By being entirely themselves, without pretense, Tom and Ray single-handedly changed that, and showed that real people are far more interesting than canned radio announcers. And every interesting show that has come after them owes them a debt of gratitude.

"I think the body of work he leaves will definitely be held up with great American humorists like the Marx Brothers and Mark Twain," said Berman. "He was a genius. And he happened to use that genius to make other people feel good and laugh. I suspect, generations from now, people will be listening to *Car Talk* and feeling good and laughing."

The family asks that in lieu flowers, or rotten fruit, fans of Tom make a donation in his memory to either their local NPR station or the Alzheimer's Association