

J. Gregory Sager, 71, passed away on October 6, 2017. He was born in Akron, Ohio on May 6, 1946 to the late Rex and Evelyn Sager. He graduated from Copley high school and Barrington College, and earned a Masters in Theater Arts from Kent State University.

Greg was a puppeteer, writer, playwright, and a producer of videos for local organizations. He acted in local theater such as Shakespeare on the Terrace at Stan Hywet. His gentle humor infected everything he did.

While at Copley High, he met Dave Stone. Their mutual interest in puppetry led them to do puppet shows for children. Dave moved on to become a Summit County Sheriff's deputy and part-time puppeteer.

Greg stayed true to his art. He worked in children's programming at Channel 3 in Cleveland, where he joked off-set with young weatherman Al Roker, and played second banana to Melinda Scott on "Mindy's Summer Camp". On her studio show, "Mindy, Popeye and Friends", Greg and his puppets were the Friends. If you remember that show, he was The Expert. He also acted and did technical work for the Magical Theater Company in Barberton, and the Illusion Factory with Bunny Balance.

In the 1990s Greg and Lewis Jenkins formed Epiphany Productions, which produced such video classics as "Wild Thingdom", "Quest for the Holy Pail", and "Stupendous Person - Episode 3 - The Blunder Years". In addition, Greg wrote and produced live performances for the Summit County Historical Society (and other historical societies) that drew much of their cast from an informal acting group called The Perkins Parlor Players.

He followed his theatrical star until Parkinson's disease robbed him of control over his voice and body. He is with Jesus and his family now, and certainly telling stories. We will miss him here, but he leaves us with our memories, and an unfortunately small body of good and funny work.

Anyone with info about the Inishowen tale of the tall-tall men he told so well can reach me at [lewis@lewisjenkins.com](mailto:lewis@lewisjenkins.com).