

# The Carmel Pine Cone

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In The Carmel Pine Cone newsroom (2010).

**P**AUL MILLER, publisher of The Carmel Pine Cone, a native of El Paso, Tex., has been an award-winning journalist for more than 30 years. But he also knows a thing or two about heavy industry.

After high school, to help support himself through college, he spent his summers working the production line and quarry at Maryland Clay Products in Laurel, Md., where his duties included operating earthmoving equipment and various types of hydraulic machinery that turned clay, sand and oil into millions of classic red bricks.

Saying goodbye to the world of hard hats and union cards, his first "real" job after studying political science at the University of Chicago was copy boy for CBS News at its headquarters on Manhattan's West 57th Street, working for broadcasting legends such as Walter Cronkite, Dan Rather and Charles Osgood.

After nine months of tearing copy and running scripts, he was transferred to the CBS News foreign assignment desk, which oversaw an extensive network of bureaus around the world as they prepared packages for the Cronkite broadcast. As assistant foreign editor, Miller played a role in arranging Cronkite's groundbreaking 1977 interviews with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin. He was also deeply involved in coverage of the March 1977 collision of two 747s in the Canary Islands (still the worst commercial aviation accident in history), the 444-day captivity of Americans in Tehran, and many other important international stories.

Three years later, he was recruited by NBC News as foreign assignment editor for the Today Show and NBC Nightly News.

After a year working for NBC at Rockefeller Center, Miller was sent to the Middle East where, still in his 20s, he was the NBC News bureau chief in Israel. During those tumultuous years (1981-1985), he had on-the-scene responsibility for NBC's coverage of

the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai Peninsula, the war in Lebanon, the U.S. Marines' disastrous peacekeeping mission in Beirut, the invention of the suicide bomb as a terrorist weapon, and Israel's role in the massacres at the Sabra and Chatilla refugee camps. He also covered numerous trips overseas by President Ronald Reagan, including an eventful visit to Tokyo in 1983, several NATO and Economic Summits, and the 40th Anniversary D-Day observances in Normandy, France. (To read more about his adventures in network news, [click here](#).)

He then returned to the U.S. and for two years was a Los Angeles-based producer for NBC Nightly News with Tom Brokaw, traveling extensively in California, the Western United States, Hawaii, and the Far East for that broadcast.

During the 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul, Korea, Miller's work earned him two national Emmys, including "Best Sports Journalism" and "Best Live TV Production."

After moving with his family to Pacific Grove, Calif., in 1989, Miller became founding news director for KCBA-TV, an affiliate of the then-fledgling Fox Network, creating a 45-person news department covering Santa Cruz, Monterey and Salinas, and writing and producing hundreds of live news broadcasts.

In 1997, he bought The Carmel Pine Cone, a weekly newspaper which has been published since 1915. Under his leadership, the newspaper has returned to its small-town roots while specializing in innovative news stories of vital interest to the people of Carmel and the Monterey Peninsula. And some of those stories have been of much broader interest.

In April 1998, Miller began a series of investigative reports into California's lax voting laws. One of these reports, "[Voter Fraud: Simple as 1, 2, 3](#)," involved registering a fictitious person to vote. That story was featured on the CBS News program, "60 Minutes," on November 1, 1998. The series also won a First Place award for Public Service from the California Newspaper Publishers Association, and helped motivate Congress to tighten voter registration requirements in 2003.

In September 2012, his [interview with former Carmel Mayor Clint Eastwood](#) caused a national sensation. The interview was Eastwood's first since his empty-chair appearance at the Republican National Convention and drew attention from thousands of television, radio, print and Internet news and commentary outlets.

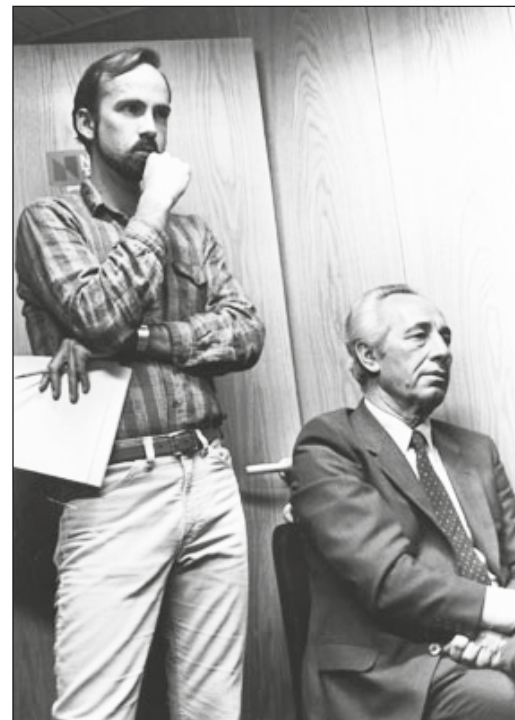
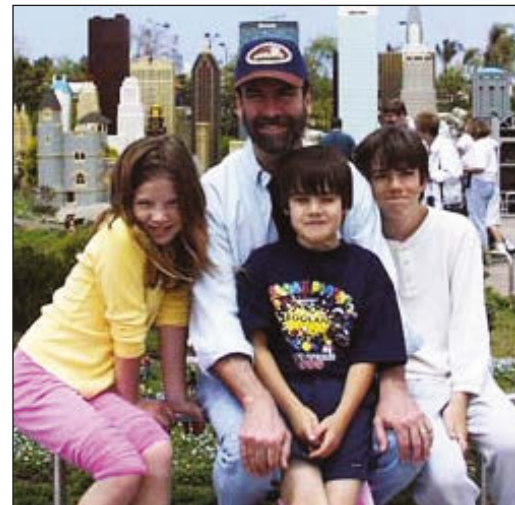
Miller has also been one of California's foremost reporters on the struggle between property rights and environmental regulations, the machinations of the California Coastal Commission, and on the epidemic of ADA lawsuits against small businesses.

The Carmel Pine Cone has won numerous journalism awards, including more First Place awards from the California Newspaper Publisher's Association than all other Monterey County newspapers combined between 1998 and 2003.

In 1998, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2006, 2009, 2011, 2013 and 2015 the paper was awarded a Green Ribbon of Excellence by the Carmel Chamber of Commerce for outstanding service to the community.

Paul Miller is President of Carmel Communications, Inc., the corporate parent of The Pine Cone.

[Click here to send him an email.](#)



(Top) With Hannah, Eli and Casey at Legoland in the 1990s. (Above) In Jerusalem, reviewing a Today Show live shot with Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, 1984.