

Geoffrey S. Mason

Duke '63

Oxford Cup Roll No. 080

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Geoffrey S. Mason, *Duke '63*, was initiated into the Gamma Rho Chapter on December 11, 1960 as Roll No. 472. He graduated from Duke University with a degree in sociology.

Though Mason started his career at the Boston Herald covering the yachting beat, he would go on to become one of sports television's most accomplished executives. In January 1967, while still on Navy shore duty, Mason drove to Las Vegas to score the golf Tournament of Champions, the first production he ever worked. That September Mason joined ABC Sports full-time as a production assistant.

With his career off to a great start, Mason moved to Europe to continue working for ABC. In 1976, he opened ABC's full-time production office in Paris, but four months later NBC Sports made him an offer he could not refuse: he opened NBC Sports' first Paris office. In 1981, Mason returned to NBC Sports in New York as executive vice president. Soon after, however, things took a turn for the worse.

In September 1983, Mason checked himself into the Betty Ford Center for alcoholism. By the end of the year, thankfully he was back on his feet and returned to NBC. Ever since, his career has been an exciting one, as he has left an indelible mark on sports television.

In total, Mason has worked for ABC, NBC, Fox, ESPN and the NFL Network during his five decades in the business, and has produced coverage of countless events, including seven Olympic Games (Summer and Winter), Monday Night Football, Major League Baseball, the Indianapolis 500, Triple Crown Horse Racing, PGA Golf, six World Cups and multiple America's Cup races. Currently at ESPN, he serves as senior production specialist, assigned to a wide variety of major productions.

Mason's excellent work has not gone unrecognized. Having won 25 Emmys, in December of 2010, he was inducted into the National Sports Broadcasting Hall of Fame.

Outside of his profession, Mason served for 22 years on the board of directors at the Betty Ford Center, and is a founding board member of the V Foundation for Cancer Research.

Mason and his wife, Chris, reside in the Naples, Fla., area.