

So Long

It was never goodbye. It seems that whenever Dick Clark signed off for any of his broadcasts, it would be with his traditional salute and his familiar "This is Dick Clark... so long." Whether it be the myriad incarnations of the original Pyramid game show, "Bloopers and Practical Jokes" (along side another icon, Ed McMahon), his 30+ years of hosting his own Rockin' New Year's Eve show, the "oldest living teenager" seemed to have his hand in every aspect of every show he was associated with. I was not around to really enjoy the heyday of American Bandstand; however, popular music owes the show and the man most associated with it a huge debt. Bandstand not only brought rock'n'roll to teenage homes on Saturdays but also broke the color barrier by showcasing acts like Chubby Checker, Sam Cooke, the Supremes, Gladys Knight and the Pips, amongst others.

Today, Mr. Clark bid his final *adieu* after suffering a massive heart attack at the age of 82. I'm not sure which I remember him more from. Every New Years for as long as I can remember, the TV was tuned to ABC from 11:35PM onward to witness whatever elements were being thrown on Times Square to ring in the New Year. Until the last few years (after he suffered a stroke), Clark was in the thick of rain, snow, sleet, or 60°+ degree weather counting down the minutes until the ball would drop from atop Number One Times Square to ring out the old and bring in the new.

From time to time, I catch reruns of the many Pyramid shows on GSN. Others have attempted to recapture the success of the original but have failed for whatever reason.

While I was not alive in the 50 and 60s, I do remember seeing some of the hit artists of the 80s on Bandstand. From Michael to Janet to (I'm almost embarrassed to say) Prince, and Madonna AB was a staple after cartoons ended.

HOWEVER... I have been trying to recollect if Mr. Clark had one of those famous "poke their head out the window" cameos on Batman visitng Gotham City from his home Philadelphia way.
SURE ENOUGH!

Rest in Peace, Mr. Clark. May you ring in the New Year for eternity.

For The Love Of Shat

I am a self-professed game show freak... AND PROUD of it. Maybe that is why I enjoy the semi-weekly game nights. If I had a bucket list, I would put being on a game show high on that list (not number one but high). I very nearly made it on Who Wants to be a Millionaire when it had the phone in game. I made it to the second round at which point I got a phone call and had to get through another set of questions in order to progress to New York City; unfortunately, I did not pass that test.

Tonight saw the return of [Password](#), hosted by Mr. Regis Philbin. Two celebrities are paired with two contestants. Actress/comedienne [Aisha Tyler](#) and actor/director (maybe not so much... has he directed anything aside from the forgettable Star Trek V?)/author/and now, celebrity interviewer William Shatner were the stars. To say that Shatner was his normal, over-active self would be an understatement. At half-time, the celebrities switch sides, Bill nearly fell over something and almost ended flat on his face. You would have thought he was back on the starship Enterprise being tossed around, holding onto the railing for dear life. His game play was nothing short of memorable... if you take my meaning. But he was in there punching, having a good time, and able to have a good laugh even at his own expense which has been a trademark for his 50 years in entertainment. Unfortunately, I did not find a clip of tonight's episode, but surely the memorable performance will be preserved in cyberspace very soon for all to enjoy over and over. However, here is a clip of a younger

Bill playing a solo round of [Pyramid](#).