

Sad news coming in by e mail from Tony Meehan: 'Sad news I'm afraid, Mel Howard former Radios Caroline and Scotland DJ passed away in hospital, on the 13th October, following a short illness, diagnoses – Pulmonary Fibrosis. I have asked for more information which I shall send to you when I receive it. Regards Tony'.



Mel Howard Born in Winnipeg, Canada, on 2nd July 1940, Mel left university at the age of 20 and became a "bad actor" for a year. He saved up \$1,000 to study music at the San Francisco State College but, instead, spent it on a trip to Europe. He arrived in Britain in 1961 and worked for EMI Records before continuing his travels by moving to Spain. On returning to the UK he joined Air Canada but, fascinated by the emerging offshore radio scene, applied for work with a number of stations. Radio Caroline South gave him his big break in October 1965. Unfortunately for Mel, at the end of the year Caroline South changed management and there was a wholesale purge of on-air personnel. Mel was out of a job. He worked at the 100 Club in London's Oxford Street until March 1966 when he was offered a position on Radio Scotland. His theme tune was My Star by The Frank Chacksfield Orchestra. After his pirate days, Mel went back to Air Canada for a time before returning to Winnipeg. He was heard on CJOB while also studying for a degree in education. He then became a teacher - a job he continued until retirement. In July 2004 Mel attended the First North American Pirate Radio Reunion in Vancouver, Canada. There are photos [here](#). He also visited London for the Radio Academy [Celebration of Offshore Radio](#) in August 2007.

Info: Pirate Hall of Fame. Photo 242 Magazine