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Wichita TV Icon Tom Leahy Dies

Tom Leahy, who played Major Astro for years on KSN and who also worked for KAKE, died Friday following heart surgery.

Leahy's career began in the 1940s and spanned over six decades. He worked in radio, first at Wichita State, then KANS, KAKE Radio, KWBB and KVOO in Tulsa.

He switched to television in the late '50s here on KAKE and created a Sci-Fi show called "The Host And Rodney." It was campy, fun and the audience loved it.

They created live skits that were on two levels, one for the kids and one for the adults.

Tom had a great voice and used it in countless commercials and local plays.

He could play just about any part, but it was his Major Astro character on KSN and that of "the Host And Rodney" on KAKE that is forever cemented in the lives of earlier generations of Wichitans.

As, Major Astro, he ended each day's show by saying "Join me next time when everything will be A-Ok and all systems will be go. Happy orbits, boys and girls."

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