

# Journalist Amos Brown provided inspiration

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(Photo: Kelly Wilkinson / The Star)

We all know Amos Brown had a radio show for two hours every afternoon and was an award-winning journalist.

But he did more in his 30-minute visit to Tarkington Park in September than most people could ever know. We can never thank him enough. His presence inspired a team of boys. His presence inspired a group of football dads to take action and step up. His presence and subsequent conversations brought attention to an issue that is consistently swept under the rug.

The conversation about Tarkington Park is not about swings, or a cafe or even a dog park.

Don't fall victim to the distractions.

If we're spent from fighting over a dog park, we won't notice the vultures circling our kids at Indianapolis Public Schools' James Whitcomb Riley School 43. We will lose count on how many friends and fellow fathers are lying in the streets and alleys of Byram and Graceland avenues and 40th Street. We will drown in despair. We will forget how we got here — systematic disinvestment in our families, neighborhoods and public education system while we stood by and lost hope. We will forget to hold Councilor Joe Simpson and Mayor-elect Joe Hogsett accountable to our neighborhood.



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Behind his public persona, friends say Amos Brown was quiet, introverted

(<http://www.indystar.com/story/news/2015/11/11/behind-his-public-persona-friends-say-amos-brown-quiet-introverted/75513118/>)

Amos told us to stay focused when we entered his studio, and to let him express the outrage for us.

We know we can't afford to be angry. There's not enough time and not enough energy. We're already tired, but we have to get busy. Amos connected us, guided us and challenged us. We have so many more questions to ask him, but we are forever grateful.

*Damon Lee, The Men and Women of W.A.D.E., Working Against Despair Everyday, Indianapolis*



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Death of Amos Brown leaves 'a communication crater in our community'

(<http://www.indystar.com/story/news/2015/11/07/radio-personality-amos-brown-has-died/75369862/>)

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