

# **Tom Abate**

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## **Employment**

### **Staff Writer & Columnist – San Francisco Chronicle, April 1997 to present**

Tom has covered technology, biotechnology, economics and science. Nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in 2000 and 2002, he covered economics during the 2004 presidential race. His high-tech and biotech columns and insightful coverage of globalization have made him a respected voice in Silicon Valley.

### **Staff Writer & Columnist – San Francisco Examiner, June 1992 to April 1997**

Hired to fill a temporary vacancy on the science desk, Tom started work a day early when an earthquake struck. His performance won him a permanent job as a business reporter, covering the rise of the World Wide Web and the emergence of the Pacific Rim economies.

### **Freelance Writer – Brooklyn, August 1990 to June 1992**

While attending the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University Tom did market research and wrote articles for *BioScience*, *The Scientist*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Portland Oregonian*, *Detroit News* and *San Francisco Examiner*.

### **Co-founder, North Coast Journal – Eureka, California, 1989 to 1990**

Tom co-founded an alternative monthly newspaper to cover the people, politics and art of Humboldt County, California. Tom sold the paper to attend the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University. The *Journal* continues in publication as a weekly.

### **Freelance Writer – Bayside, California, 1985 to 1989**

Tom published magazine articles, had columns in local newspapers and wrote a novel. As a freelance market researcher for RCM Capital Management, a money management firm in San Francisco, Tom covered the computing, transportation and raw materials industries.

### **Co-Founder, Typesetting & Publishing Firm – Eureka, California, 1980 to 1990**

With his wife as partner, Tom established a pre-press shop that typeset books for small press publishers nationwide. Their firm, Pioneer Graphics, was the first pre-press shop to use labor-saving software that allowed typesetting equipment to “read” electronic manuscripts. They sold the business in 1990 but it has since gone defunct.

### **Editor & Reporter, Daily Californian – Berkeley, California, 1978 to 1980**

Tom was elected editor-in-chief and president of an independent, student-run daily when it was near bankruptcy. He hired the business manager who led the financial turnaround. Tom personally broke a story on the H-bomb “secret” that briefly put the student paper in the national news spotlight.

### **Broadcast Journalist & Public Relations Officer, USS Flint (AE-32) – 1974 to 1978**

Tom started a closed-circuit television station aboard a Navy ship in the Far East, and ran a closed-circuit radio station staffed by volunteer disk jockeys. He was honorably discharged as journalist petty officer second class, the highest rank attainable in one enlistment.

## ***Education***

### **Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism – Masters Degree, May 1991**

Focus in science writing. Tom was one of three distinguished honor graduates and won a *Pulitzer Traveling Fellowship* which he used to support a reporting trip to the Philippines.

### **University of California, Berkeley – Bachelors Degree in Political Science, June 1980**

Tom minored in Mandarin and earned Phi Beta Kappa honors.

### **Defense Information School – Distinguished Honor Graduate, November 1974**

This Navy, Army, Air Force and Marines training program prepares military personnel to run print and/or broadcast media for troops abroad, and to serve as military spokespersons.

### **Regis High School, Manhattan – Liberal Arts Diploma, June 1972**

This is a Jesuit school for boys who are chosen through a city-wide competitive exam to attend on a fully-paid, four-year scholarship.

## ***Teaching Experience***

### **Lecturer, University of California Extension, San Francisco – Spring 2005 to present**

Tom teaches feature writing and news writing classes through this prestigious adult-education program. He has also planned a workshop to teach citizen journalism.

### **Lecturer, College of the Redwoods, Eureka, California – 1989 to 1990**

Tom taught entry-level journalism and served as moderator of student-run campus newspaper.

## ***Accomplishments***

- Author of *The Biotech Investor*, an investment guide commissioned by Times Books
- Tom blogs at [MiniMediaGuy.org](http://MiniMediaGuy.org) about the business, technology and meaning of media
- Experienced in all facets of business – planning, leadership, sales, cash flow, hiring and sale
- Veteran of multiple startups and turnarounds in for-profit and not-for-profit settings
- Resourceful, determined, energetic and principled. References upon request