

# Bob Simon Dies, All Nature Mourns

“A warrior poet who loved life and loved people” according to Anderson Cooper.

Others may not agree.

He was one of the worst journalists – nasty, sly, sure of himself, essentially ignorant – to report from Israel, and his atrocious tendentious coverage continued for many years. In his whole career, his best moment was just after he had been freed by the Iraqis, who had managed to take him prisoner during the Gulf War. He was, for a few weeks, almost acceptable in his tone, less chirpy (and his voice was intolerable, high-pitched and hard to take). He was one more ignoramus, knew nothing about Islam, or for that matter about the reasons for the Arab war on Israel and why Israel did what it had to do to protect itself. He was a liar, unrepentant, never apologizing for his grotesque story on the “persecution of Christians in the Middle East” – oh where? – oh, in Israel.

You are entitled to feel the same grim satisfaction that you felt – I certainly hope you did, I hope I was not alone – when we learned, on the nightly news of course, that Peter Jennings had died.

What’s the opposite of “she should have died hereafter”? I think it would be “he should have died a long time ago.” I’ll take what I can get. Man wants but little here below.