



Antigo Daily Journal Editor Fred Berner at the 2013 Antigo High School commencement ceremony, where he was hoored as Alumnus of the Year.

## ***Fred Berner, Journal, community leader, dies at desk this morning***

**By MARY JO BERNER**

The greater Antigo community lost its greatest champion today.

Fred Berner, the last of four generations of Berners to own and serve as publisher of the Antigo Daily Journal, died early this morning at his desk, as he was getting a head-start on today's newspaper—which he did every day—before his co-workers would arrive.

This was to be Fred's final week at the Journal. He had sold the newspaper to Adams Publishing Group last June and was to retire after this Saturday's paper was off the press and he had delivered the bundles of newspapers to Mattoon, Birnamwood, Aniwa and Phlox.

While Fred assumed the title of publisher of the paper upon the death of our mother, Marie Berner, in August, 2011, he was in essence the publisher for many years prior to her passing. Fred knew and loved everything about running the Antigo Daily Journal—it was his life, a life he shared with Kay Schroeder, his dearest friend and co-worker.

Fred's legacy lives on in our family, in Kay, in his many friends and the community.

My love and gratitude, Fred.

Your sister,  
Mary Jo a/k/a  
Sugar Berner