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**May 21st 2020: Why Journalism is Important to
the Survival of Our Democracy**

"It was immediately known that there had been deaths, but the initial report was that the deaths were of Guardsmen, based on a misunderstanding by a United Press International reporter," Alex Jones, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist writes in the foreword to my guest's book. "That wrong information was circulated instantly throughout the nation by other newspapers. The Beacon Journal's reporter on the scene said it was four students who had been killed. The issue was fraught, as one version of events had the students firing on the Guardsmen. But the editors went with their own reporter's ver

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Featured Guest



Bob Giles

Giles was curator of Harvard University's Nieman Foundation for Journalism from 2000 until 2011. He came to Harvard after a newspaper career of nearly 40 years that included editorships at The Detroit News, Times-Union and Democrat & Chronicle in Rochester, NY, and the Beacon Journal where he won a Nieman Fellowship in 1965. By May 1970, he had become the managing editor at the Beacon Journal in Akron, Ohio and in charge of covering the tragedy at Kent State. His paper won a Pulitzer Prize for their coverage of the events. Before coming to Harvard, Giles was a senior vice president of the Freedom Forum and executive director of its Media Studies Center in New York City. He wanted the world t

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