

News anchor back in town for family moment

By CHRIS CLAY
Staff

Mississauga-raised television news personality John Roberts was back in town over the weekend, but it wasn't to cover a breaking story for *Fox News*.

Roberts had a personal reason for returning to his hometown with his young family. *The Fox News* national correspondent, who's based in Atlanta, was in Mississauga with his fiancée, *CNN* anchor Kyra Phillips, and their twin children, Kellan and Sage, for the children's baptism on Sunday at St. Peter's Anglican Church in Erindale.

It's the church Roberts' family attends in Mississauga.

Sunny and Gil Moore, good friends of Roberts and Phillips, were at the baptism. Gil

Moore, the drummer with 1980s' rock act Triumph and owner of Metalworks Studios on Mavis Rd., is godfather to the twins.

"John has been a lifelong great friend and I was thrilled to be the godfather of his children," Moore told *The News*. "They're a great couple and both have really distinguished broadcasting careers. John had to be Triumph's greatest friend in the media."

Following the baptism, Roberts and Phillips had a blessing of their engagement and children by Rev. Jennifer Reid. The couple wanted to marry, but because of possible bureaucratic entanglements arising from American citizens getting married in Canada, they decided to host the blessing ceremony instead, said Reid.

Roberts made the switch to *Fox News* last year. Prior to that, he co-anchored *CNN's American Morning*.

A familiar face on American networks for more than 20 years, Roberts attended both Lorne Park and Erindale secondary schools, as well as University of Toronto Mississauga, where he worked at the campus radio station.

A member of the Canadian Broadcasting Hall of Fame, Roberts broke into the news business as a teenager in Mississauga — selling subscriptions to *The Mississauga News* over the phone.

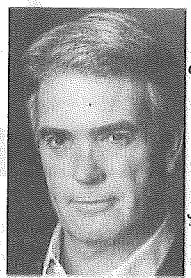
In a 2004 interview with *The News*, Roberts recalled his brief tour of duty at the paper.

"When I was working on the second floor of *The Mississauga News*, I was about 15 and selling subscriptions over the phone, I never had any idea I'd be here today," said Roberts,

who sought a job with the paper as a reporter, but ended up in subscription sales. "I've always been a great lover of the news."

After making the jump from radio to television, Roberts worked for *CITY-TV* and *MuchMusic*, then left Canada in 1989 to work in Miami.

He returned here to host *CTV's Canada AM* for two years before eventually joining *CBS*. He joined *CNN* in 2006.



John Roberts

cclay@mississauga.net