

Marty Zweig: One Cool Yacht Owner; Two BAD girls

Wall Street investment guru Martin Zweig, forecast the 1987 stock market plunge on a nationally- televised financial program days before it happened but never gloated about it. He was described by friends and colleagues as brilliant, quirky, goofy, and affable; a consummate worrier, and very humble about his stock market acuity.



When he appeared on PBS' "Wall Street Week with Louis Rukeyser" one night in October 1987, Zweig seemed hesitant to predict what turned out to be a 23 percent drop in the market on its next trading day. He didn't grandstand or pound his chest in the style of modern money pundits. Very "low-key" is the way some observers described his delivery of market wisdom.

But the life of Zweig-- who died at age 70 in Miami--was anything but low-profile in other aspects of his life. He lived large.

The financier and his wife Barbara bought a 16-room triplex penthouse in Manhattan's Pierre Hotel in 1999 for what was then the most expensive residence in Manhattan – a record \$21.5 million. He would later reputedly sell it for multiples of that. To decorate their tony Fisher Island condo in Miami, Zweig hired a crane to hoist a 1934 yellow Packard Convertible into the couple's fifth-floor living room. It was a gift from Barbara. He owned an eclectic collection of celebrity memorabilia-- including the dress Marilyn Monroe wore when she sang 'Happy Birthday' to President John F. Kennedy. He collected a pair of JFK-worn pajamas; suits worn in performance by musical superstars like Jimi Hendrix and the Beatles; Super Bowl rings; Heisman Trophies; and Oscar statuettes.

The man who began buying stocks as a teenager would later in life donate millions to Miami Beach's Mount Sinai Hospital where an organ transplant institute was named the Zweig Family Center for Living Donation.

And he was a yachtsman—He loved his 187-footer named BAD GIRL after his other “bad girl”, and love of his life, Barbara Ann Digan.

BAD GIRL was found for him by his yacht broker Jerry Berton of Bertonyachts.com and was custom-built by Brooke Marine in the United Kingdom and as he would often say, had everything you could want. BAD GIRL, like most bad girls, was fast. She hit top speeds approaching 25 knots on her triple MTU water jet engines. Decorated with dark wood and creamy accents, it was open, airy and panoramic. Her decks were expansive. The yacht could sleep 12 guests in seven cabins, along with 14 crew. It sported a Jacuzzi, sauna, dance/yoga studio, gym, water toys and-- in deference to the owners' Yorkshire terrier Murphy-- a small plot of grass that served as a comfort station.

While onboard the Yacht HYPERION, owned by the legendary Jim Clark, Marty eyes were fixated less on the yacht than on the original works of art onboard – by Picasso, Modigliani, and Leger. In this moment, he turned to his attorney and friend and was heard to say, “Now this is real money”.

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