

Ed Richards- Newport News Daily Press

When informed of his award, Ed stated, "I feel extremely honored to be selected as MAPGA's 1996 recipient of the Earle Hellen Sportswriter of the Year Award. It is especially meaningful since I knew Earle for many years when he worked on our sister paper, the Newport News Times-Herald. I was the golf writer for the morning paper, The Newport News Daily Press, and he was the golf writer for the afternoon paper, The Times-Herald, back in the 1970s and 1980s. I know he loved the game and did his best to promote it."

Born on January 19, 1943, in San Antonio, Texas, Ed Richards has been a journalist for over 30 years. After receiving his BA in journalism from North Texas State in 1966, Richards became a Journalism teacher on the high school level after matriculation. Ed's newspaper experience began in 1962 with the *San Antonio Light*, as a part-time sportswriter. Upon joining the U.S. Navy, he served as the editor of *The Gator*, the U.S. Naval Amphibious Force newspaper from 1969-71. He joined the *Newport News Daily Press* as a part-time sportswriter while stationed with the Navy in Norfolk in 1971. After separation from Navy, Ed became a full-time sportswriter for the *Daily Press* in 1972. He has worked on the *Daily Press* since then in various capacities, as a writer, copy editor, designer, copy desk chief, and night sports coordinator. Ed covered golf for the *Daily Press* from the mid-1970s until around the mid-1980s, then went into editing and makeup. Ed returned to golf writing in 1993.

Ed is married to wife Kathy and has two children. Edward Richards Jr., a former PGA apprentice at Ford's Colony in Williamsburg, is now 26 years old and a Newport News Shipbuilding employee. Daughter Angela, age 24, is a Virginia Commonwealth University graduate and currently a graphic artist.