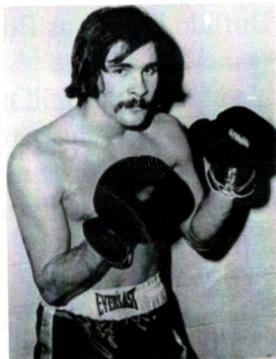


## Eddy Niemann



Ed started his boxing career at the age of eight at the Town Boys and Girls Club in the Riverside section of Buffalo. The first alumnus of the club to win the Golden Gloves, he was named to their Hall Of Fame and continues to raise funds for the youth at that facility. Eddy fought about 10 fights at the Hotel Lafayette, which at that time were televised on Channel 17 as the "Squirt Bantam Bouts", commentated by Hall of Fame Broadcaster Chuck Healy. At the age of 12, Ed trained at Buffalo Landmark, Singer's Gym under the tutelage of legendary trainers Tony Pinto and Sam Cardinale. After Tony passed in 1970, Ed continued his training under Johnny Sudac and Charlie Ferraro. At the age of 17, in 1966, Eddy won the 126 lb. Novice Buffalo Golden Gloves, defeating Winifred Cook of Niagara Falls. After that time, Ed served in the U.S. Army for two years. He returned to the ring in 1969 and, in 1971 lost in the open 132 lb. Golden Gloves final to Larry MacGregor of Brantford, Ontario. Eddy avenged his loss in 1972, taking the 132 lb. open Golden Gloves Championship, defeating Frank Holder of Toronto after beating the Canadian Champ, Robert Proulx in a preliminary bout. Pouring over old newspaper clippings, an amateur record of 28-4, has been documented. In several of these shows, Ed was selected as the *Fighter of the Night* and he became a fan favorite. Many of Ed's wins came via KO, a trend that has been reversed since the amateurs are now required to wear headgear. He and Rocky Cudney were subsequently invited to compete in the 1972 U.S. Olympic trials held in Cincinnati, Ohio. Ed turned pro in 1973, posting a record of 2 wins and no defeats. In 1975, Peter and George Marra organized the Niagara Falls franchise of the World Boxing Team Association, intended to base 8 franchises across the United States and Canada for City vs City matches. Ed was picked for the team along with Alan Kemp, Ralph Racine, Larry Davis and Donnie Rucker, all to be trained by Johnny Sudac. The venture was unsuccessful, and shortly thereafter Ed was forced to retire with a herniated disc. The accolades continued. In 1989, in commemoration of when the Buffalo/Niagara District included Ontario, Canada, "Hizzoner" Mayor Jimmy Griffin presented Ed with the *P.A.L. Can-Am Boxing Award*. Also honored were notables such as: Mike Creman, Gary Pritchard, Keith and Darryl Kiblin, Vinnie Cala, Vinnie Mancini, Les and Jimmy Ralston. Ed continued in boxing by pairing up with Buffalo Hall of Famer Paul Wielopolski to train six Junior Olympic Champs at the Austin St. Police Athletic League Gym. Most recently, Ed trained young boxers at Victory Gym in North Tonawanda, along with Paul, Tommy Neff and Bob LaBarbera. Since that time, Ed retired as a highly-decorated Detective from the Buffalo Police Department and continues in public service with the Grand Island Police Department. He resides in Grand Island with his wife, Patty and occupies his time with his classic cars, motorcycles and activities with Ring 44. Still active in law enforcement, Eddy continues to find time for his old friends and is always anxious to assist them in their needs.

Tonight Ring 44 is honored to induct Eddy Niemann to the Buffalo Boxing Hall of Fame.

1973-04-16 Mike Swiger Memorial Auditorium, Buffalo, New York, USA W 4

1973-05-14 Julie Mandell Memorial Auditorium, Buffalo, New York, USA W 4