

In Memoriam

Edwin C. Leonard Jr.

May 13, 1940 - December 7, 2020

Edwin C. Leonard Jr., Professor Emeritus of Management, was born on May 13, 1940, in Amherst, Ohio. He graduated from Elyria High School in Elyria, Ohio. Ed earned Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctoral degrees from Purdue University, West Lafayette. After graduation, he served his country as the company commander of Headquarters Company of the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg.

Ed spent more than 40 years at IPFW, starting in the Purdue Extension Office then moving to the School of Business & Management Sciences (now Doermer School of Business), where he spent most of his career. He received Emeritus status from Indiana University in 2004. He taught a variety of courses, including Introduction to Business, Organizational Behavior and Leadership, Human Resources / Industrial Relations, and the business capstone course, Administrative Policy.

He was a great researcher and published in numerous academic and professional journals, and presented at national and regional conferences. His passion was to write business case studies. He received numerous "best paper" and "distinguished case" awards. He served as the editor of the Business Case Journal for seven years. He was an accomplished author too, and his textbook, "Supervision, Concepts and Practices in Management," is in its 13th edition, and it is used in various universities.

He held various faculty and administrative positions, including chair of the Management and Marketing Department.

Ed designed and conducted workshops and seminars for business executives all over the world. For more than 30 years, he served as academic advisor and coordinator of Do-It-Best Corporation's Management Training Course. From 1970 through 2001, he had his own full-service management consulting firm.

Dr. Leonard was the recipient of numerous recognitions throughout his career, including the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Purdue, being inducted into the Elyria High School Hall of Fame, the Award of Teaching Excellence from the IU School of Continuing Studies, the Faculty Service Award from the National University Continuing Education Association, and the Ordo Honorarium of Kappa Delta Rho, to name a few.

While Ed's impact on his students and the business world is significant, he is "the Father of IPFW Athletics." He was the first men's head basketball coach in Mastodon History. He was also the first men's head golf coach. He was Chairman of the Joint Athletic Committee and was a driving force for adding women's athletics to the program. He established the first endowed scholarship at the university for a student-athlete in the basketball, baseball, or volleyball

programs majoring in business. He later endowed a men's volleyball scholarship and a men's golf scholarship. In 2010, he was inducted into the Mastodon Athletics Hall of Fame, and in 2014, then-Governor Mike Pence awarded him the 'Sagamore of the Wabash' for his contributions to IPFW Athletics.

Dr. Leonard is survived by his wife, Virginia (Ginger), two daughters, Lori, of Fort Wayne, and Lisa (Gary) Koss, of Gahanna, OH; son Todd/Teo (Stacie) of Apollo Beach, FL; and beloved grandchildren, Haley Koss and Tyler Koss of Gahanna OH.