

## CHARLES EDWARD ("Easy Ed") MACAULEY – College and NBA Professional Basketball Player

"Easy Ed" as he was known since his college playing days at St. Louis University in St. Louis, Missouri, was a highly decorated university and NBA professional basketball player. Macauley is also the father of two current clan commissioners: Bob Macauley, Commissioner of Southern Missouri, and Mike Macauley, Commissioner of Northern Missouri.

Easy Ed's rise to notoriety began in college. As a highly recruited high school prep player out of St. Louis University High School, including by the likes of Adolph Rupp at the University of Kentucky, Ed could have chosen almost any college. But, his mother famously told him that he could attend any university he wanted to as long as "it was

Catholic and located in St. Louis!" That sealed the deal and Ed was destined for the Jesuit run St. Louis University where

he would become the most notable Billiken to ever ply the hardwood for the school.

In 1948, Ed's junior year, the Billiken's stormed New York City winning the National Invitational Tournament – (NIT - then the biggest and most important tournament in the country) by beating New York University (NYU) 65-52 in the finals. For his exploits, Ed earned the tournament MVP designation and he finished college as a two time consensus 1<sup>st</sup> team All-American (1948, 1949). (Photo Right: Ed is pictured with his St. Louis University coach, Eddie Hickey.)

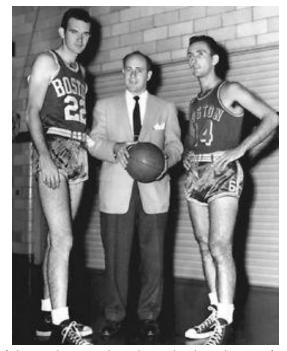
Ed was drafted in 1949 by the St. Louis Bombers, an NBA franchise located in his hometown. When the Bombers folded the following year, Ed was picked up by the Boston Celtics. Playing with the

likes of Bob Cousy and Bill Sharman, Ed went on to distinguish himself as one of the best centers in the game. The Celtics honored Ed by retiring his No. 22 jersey.

At the end of the 1956 season, in one of the most important trades in all NBA history, Ed was traded to the St. Louis Hawks along with Cliff Hagan, an outstanding player from Kentucky, for the rights to sign Bill Russell who was graduating from the University of San Francisco. The trade was especially important for Ed who needed to be back in St. Louis to help his wife Jackie raise their growing family of 3 which included Patrick, a child severely disabled at the age of one due to a bout of meningitis.

The trade was good for St. Louis! The following season the Hawks defeated the Boston Celtics to win the NBA crown – to this day the only NBA championship for the city of St. Louis.

Upon retiring, Ed's playing statistics instantly qualified him for nomination to the National Basketball Hall of Fame. Upon his induction at the age of 32 he became, and still remains, the youngest person ever inducted into the HOF. Some of Ed's other notable accomplishments during his storied career include:







- MVP of the first ever NBA All-Star Game (1951)
- 3 time All-NBA First Team (1951-1953)
- 11,234 total points (17.5 ppg)
- 4,324 rebounds (7.5 rpg)
- 2,079 assists (3.2 apg)

(Photo Left: MVP of the first NBA All-Star Game in New York City)



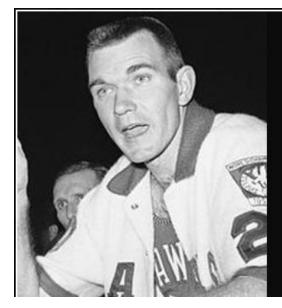
Ed is regularly recognized as one of the Top 100 NBA basketball players of all time. He is also a distinguished member of the Missouri Sports HOF, the St. Louis Sports HOF, and the St. Louis University Sports HOF.

Ed would retire from basketball after the 1960 season and take up a career in broadcasting and public speaking, and later in life writing and investing. Ed inspired tens of thousands of young people by sharing important life lessons with them at his basketball camps, school commencement speeches, etc. Bill Bradley, himself an outstanding NBA player from the St. Louis area and an attendee at one of Ed's camps, regularly quoted Ed during Bradley's many public speeches. That quote is shown below.



Despite all his accomplishments, Ed was, through it all, a very humble man. When asked what events were the most important in his life he consistently identified them as 1.) his marriage to his wife Jackie, 2.) the births of their 7 children and 3.) the subsequent births of their 17 grandchildren. He was a man of faith (he was an ordained deacon in the Catholic Church), a dedicated husband (58 years married to Jackie), and a man of family. Ed was born on March 22, 1928. He passed, surrounded by his family, on November 8, 2011 at the age of 83.

(Photo Left: Ed later in his life with a picture of his 17 grandchildren.)



When you are not practicing, remember, someone somewhere is practicing, and when you meet him he will win.

— Ed Macauley —