



2019 Indiana Broadcast Pioneers HALL OF FAME

November
2019

Four Hoosier broadcasters became the newest inductees into the Indiana Broadcast Pioneers Richard M. Fairbanks Hall of Fame as part of the annual Indiana Broadcasters Conference October 24, 2019, in Carmel. Biographical material about each inductee will be found in the Hall of Fame section of this website. ore about the Indiana Broadcast Pioneers. Organized in 1979, it is dedicated to offering opportunities for fellowship, education, public service, and the preservation of broadcast history. Ongoing projects include a quarterly newsletter, this website, the Richard M. Fairbanks Indiana Broadcast Hall of Fame, an exhibit at the Indiana State Museum, and occasional public programs featuring retired broadcasters.



2019 IBA/Pioneer
Spectrum Awards

Ann Craig-Cinnamon began her radio career at Indianapolis station WIFE-AM, quickly moved to WNAP-FM, as the first woman as a major part of a radio morning show in Indianapolis. In the 1980s, she served as the News Director for Network Indiana, the statewide news-gathering and reporting radio network. Her broadcast career spanned nearly 30 years on radio and TV. Ann later became host of successful radioshows on WZPL-FM, WENS-FM, WYJZ-FM and WHHH-FM. In 1983, she was instrumental in putting WPDS-TV (now WXIN) on the air as one of its original reporters and served as the station's Public Affairs Director. During her nine-year run as host of the morning show at WENS-FM, Ann lead the effort to raise money for Riley Hospital for Children through the annual 97-Hour Riley Radiothon and raised more than \$2 million. Later, as morning show host on 100.9 WYJZ-FM, she spearheaded a fundraiser for the New Life orphanage in Nairobi, Kenya



Linda Luepar's career as a television journalist spans nearly four decades. After graduating from Butler University, she joined the newsroom at WISH-TV to become one of the first women hired as a general assignment news reporter in the Indianapolis market. Linda spent seven years at WISH-TV, the first woman in the Indianapolis market to produce and anchor newscasts and covered the Indianapolis schools desegregation trial. She moved to WRTV in 1973 and spent the next 24 years. At WRTV, Linda focused on the local education beat and established a health beat to explore medical and hospital issues. She also covered major federal prosecutions including the Kimberlin bombing trial and scored a number of exclusive interviews and stories including with Roger Drollinger right before he turned himself in for the murder of four brothers in Hollandsburg, Indiana in 1977 and the Tony Kiritsis trial. Linda's three plus-decade career made her one of the longest serving women reporters in the city and state.



James David Longest started his journalism career writing and editing at Bosse High School's newspaper and yearbook. He went on to become editor of the Crescent, the University of Evansville's weekly newspaper. David received a bachelor's degree in journalism and a Masters in Humanities while working evenings writing obituaries for The Evansville Courier and writing features part-time for The Evansville Sunday Courier and Press. After graduation, he worked full-time at the latter, covering education and police beats before becoming a reporter-anchor at WGBF-AM (Evansville). In 1973, David began a 41-year career at WFIE-TV, becoming evening anchor and managing editor. His work took him to the White House, United Nations, the Gulf Coast, England, Germany, and the Ukraine. He also moderated several televised debates for mayor and the U.S. Senate and was a fixture on the Jerry Lewis MDA telethon in Evansville for more than 30 years. Additionally, he has served on numerous community boards and committees. After retiring James continued with part-time work at NPR affiliate, WNIN-FM in Evansville as host of a weekly radio interview program "Two Main Street."



Ed Spray earned his bachelor's degree in radio-television with a minor in journalism from Indiana University. He worked as a producer-director for IU Radio and Television Services and then became a film editor and cameraman at WISH-TV in Indianapolis. In 1966, Ed became producer-director for WMAQ-TV, Chicago, where he won five Emmy Awards. In 1974, he moved to CBS-owned station WBBM-TV where as program director he led one of commercial television's most honored programming operations winning nearly all of television's best-known awards, including National Emmys, two Peabody Awards, and more than 75 local Emmys. Ed transferred to CBS-owned KCBS-TV in Los Angeles in 1986 and served as station manager before being promoted to vice president of programming and development for all CBS-owned stations. In 1994, Ed joined the E.W. Scripps Company where he was a co-founder of the Home and Garden Cable Television Network, HGTV. The company later acquired the Food Network and under Ed's leadership launched two more cable networks—DIY and Fine Living. Ed retired as president of Scripps Networks in 2005.



