



## **The Edward J. Pillings Scholarship and Research Endowment**

NATA Hall of Fame member Ed Pillings was born in Seattle. Pillings was a high school athlete whose skills earned him a football scholarship at Washington State University.

World War II interrupted his playing days, and he served as an Army captain commanding troops for two and one half years in New Guinea, Australia, Philippines and the Japanese islands.

After the war, he returned to college and became a track athlete. Pinky Newell, another NATA Hall of Fame member, inspired his interest in athletic training, and Pillings finished two undergraduate degrees at Washington State University (B.S. in Physical Education and a B.S. in Education). He went on to earn a master's degree in Education from Columbia University.

His first job in athletic training was as head athletic trainer at Eastern Washington College, where he also taught kinesiology, anatomy and other courses. He then spent four years as head athletic trainer at the University of New Mexico.

At the urging of legendary Army football coach Earl Blaik, Pillings joined the staff at the U.S. Military Academy in 1957. He served as the head athletic trainer at West Point for 24 years, during which time he also served as an athletic trainer for the Pan-American Games and the 1980 Winter Olympics.

Throughout his career, Pillings maintained his dedication to the military, achieving the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Army Reserves.

Ed achieved entry in the NATA Hall of Fame in 1980, which was created to recognize members who have demonstrated career excellence in of the athletic training profession. It is the highest honor which may be bestowed upon a member. Therefore, individuals inducted into the Hall of Fame must exemplify the mission statement of the NATA by enhancing the quality of health care provided by athletic trainers and advance the athletic training profession with such qualities as leadership, service, dedication, scholarly activities, promotion and professionalism.





## **The Need for Your Contribution**

Since the Foundation's founding 15 years ago, individuals and organizations have generously contributed both time and money

to support scholarship, research, and outstanding achievement. With this help, we have built an important and valued resource for athletic trainers, athletes, and all people who are physically active.

There is an urgent need to expand scholarships and research awards. Scholarships bring the promise of capable athletic trainers to enhance the status of the profession and research drives new techniques and tools for injury prevention and treatment.

*I was a non-traditional college student.....a wife, mother of 5, and living on one income! The scholarship helped me focus on what was important, my family and my education. Thanks so much, you made a difference in my life and in my family's life.*

*A dream that becomes reality is truly a dream!*

Tammy Carrell ATC, LAT, MS

Head Athletic Trainer  
Sulphur Springs High School  
Approved Clinical Instructor  
Texas A&M University-Commerce



*"The Foundation's research grant programs have been instrumental to both me and my students. Not only have they helped to develop our future researchers, but they continue to support our profession's top investigators and most important questions."*

Mark A. Merrick, PhD, ATC

Associate Professor & Director  
Department of Exercise and Sport Science  
The Ohio State University

## **Your Contribution to the Edward J. Pillings Scholarship and Research Endowment**

It was Ed's desire to create an endowment to assure adequate support for the next generations of leaders following in his footsteps in the profession that he enjoyed so much. Ed's family, the Army Football Club, the Athletic Training Community and the NATA Foundation aim to continue his legacy of giving through this endowment.



All gifts contributed will be added to the principal of the Endowment. On the one hand, this will allow the Foundation to continue and enhance its crucial role as the largest national source for scholarships for students pursuing a university education for service in the athletic training profession. It will also allow the Foundation to enhance its crucial role to drive cutting edge research that is critical to the collective future of those active in the profession.

Your contribution is a gift that keeps on giving. Endowments are held in perpetuity and provide annual income to support both scholarships and research grants. Established in 2008, once fully funded at \$150,000, an annual scholarship (\$2,300) and funding for annual research grants (up to \$5,000) would be distributed in perpetuity from the endowment.

