



Hall of Fame Inductee

Name: ED "TURK" DARLINGTON

Instrument: Saxophone

Year Inducted: 2006

Ed Darlington's life changed when he was handed a saxophone in junior high. By 15, he was playing professionally around his hometown of Ames, IA. After serving in the U.S. Army, Ed returned to Iowa to study music at Drake University. A year later he transferred to the Chicago Musical College to specialize in jazz studies. Contacts he made in Chicago led to a career on the road with the bands of Gene Krupa and Ray Anthony. In 1954, Ed returned to Drake to complete his formal education and began teaching at various area high schools. Along with Jack Oatts, Ed helped energize Iowa's high school jazz band competition scene.

Throughout his teaching years, he continued to perform in the area, including taking a leadership role in the early days of the Des Moines Big Band. Upon his retirement, Ed and his wife, Wanda (Killinger), moved to Florida where he continued to play on a regular basis in a variety of venues until his sudden death in 1984.

