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# NTIS HALL OF FAME

## *Edward L ehmann*

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### **It's the End of the "Mr. NTIS" Era... Or is it?**

**It's no secret who "Mr. NTIS" is...**

After interviewing many of the prestigious and elite people at NTIS, one thing is perfectly clear. If you have a question about the history of NTIS or even what direction the organization should be heading, never fear... you can ask "Mr. NTIS".

"Mr. NTIS" can do it all. I bet it doesn't hurt that he has been here since the creation of the organization. And what an asset; he knows it all **AND** he is always right, just ask him.

I had the wonderful opportunity to observe "Mr. NTIS" in action. What first impressed me about "Mr. NTIS" was his height. Yes, his height alone could make him a superhero, although, he doesn't try to use his stature to intimidate people. In fact, quite often you would see him getting on his knees to talk to you at your level.

Then there is his gallop. Yikes, I couldn't keep up. I tried to match his one step to my ten steps. It was as if I was trying to keep up with the energizer bunny. He just kept going... and going... and going.

There was so much that I was impressed with I just couldn't put it all into words. How does he handle it all: Supervise, Market, Web, database, product development, and even squeeze in weekly lunch time bridge appointments.

He not only can do it all here at NTIS; he can at home as well. From what I was told, this man can cook like Martha Stewart, build stone walls and fences like Bob Villa, give advice as reliable as Ann Landers, and also create his famous Christmas cards as skillful as Hallmark's. He even builds and maintains his community's website, gives tours of his home and still takes care of his dogs, cats, fish, frogs and, most importantly, his wife. All this from some where in a Tin Buck Two called Waterford, VA. How does he find the time?

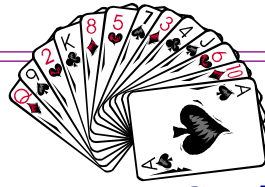
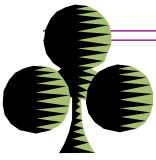
One thing puzzles me though. "Mr. NTIS" with all his celebrity status, intellectual reputation, warmth, compassion, and recognition for his extraordinary accomplishments could not make it anywhere on time. And you know, I don't think it fazed many. Hey, when you're that good they just make adjustments, right.

So, could it be the end of the "Mr. NTIS" era? Heck no, "Mr. NTIS" decided to retire after 33 years in the federal government and return to work part-time as a contractor with NTIS. Now is that smart or what? I told you he was intelligent. Maybe he's just waiting for the director's seat to become vacant. Ya never know.... Needless to say, you can take a deep breath because "Mr. NTIS" isn't actually going anywhere. Let's just say the word "double dipper" comes to mind and there isn't anything wrong with that. We all wish we could.

Now the tricky part is... we ALL need to thoroughly pick his brain before he decides to actually leave NTIS for good.

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## We Won't Ever Forget...

- The special rapport between Belle and Ed. "Put up this web page... Oh, no... Take it back down." And I'm hanging up now, Ed," Belle'd say, and then bang the phone down
- Historical information about Waterford, VA
- Ed giving us a hard time about yelling across dividers
- Ed dressing up for Halloween and trying to coax everyone into letting him put halloween make-up on them
- How obsessive he is about organization of email and files (folders)
- Ed saying... "I'm your boss, which means I can" ha ha ha
- Asking Ed "What's the weather like up there?"
- Ed's Ann Landers advise on life
- How hyper Ed can be
- His gallop - (ten-stepping)
- Ed coming down to our level by getting on his knee
- Ed's Dog Calendars
- Ed's famous Christmas cards
- Ed always wanting to be the heavy for who hasn't turned in their timesheet
- Ed giving the "smokers" a lecture
- Ed's frequent staff meetings
- Those tedious weeklies for Ed
- The kindness he has shown to all

## Could Ed Ever Forget...

- Lorraine's Pink Flamingo
- Linda getting fiesty with Ed
- Cathy's chewed up pens
- Bridge - noon - appointments
- Vacations to...
- Jan & Ed talking at the same time
- Wally saying "Oh Ed, Please don't go
- Edith's to do list
- Linda's Candy Jar - Lemon Drops and Chocolate
- Dave Thomas's Porsche
- Stu Weisman's humble nature
- Linda's New York accent
- Manuel's trials and tribulations
- Tom King the "Quiet Rebel"
- LouAnn's Jingle Jangle jewelry and extravagant nail design
- Dawn's initiative
- The ease of putting together the NOAA Dive Manual
- Jan's Christmas Cookies
- Thursday Lunch with Budget
- Wallyball on Thursday's

