



# CELEBRITY PROFILES

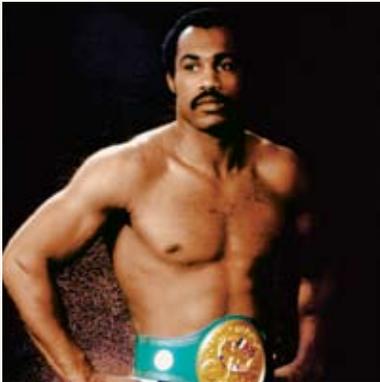


## Ed McMahon

Ed McMahon has transformed the job of announcer into a star-quality role.

Known and loved for his thirty-year stint as the announcer on *The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson*, hosting the popular syndicated show, *Ed McMahon's Star Search*, and numerous performances as host on specials and telethons, television, and radio commercials, Mr. McMahon has become one of the most recognizable and respected men in his field.

In WWII Ed McMahon joined the Marine Corps, got his wings at Pensacola Naval Base, and became a Fighter-Pilot Instructor where he taught young students carrier landings and was a test pilot in fighters, including the sophisticated Corsair. Also serving in Korea as a Marine, McMahon flew eighty-five combat missions and rose to the rank of full Colonel.



## Ken Norton

In 1973, the 6' 2", 220-pound Ken Norton made boxing history when he met Muhammad Ali for the heavyweight title, and won.

During the height of his boxing career, Norton was screen-tested and won the role in Dino De Laurentis' film, *"Mandingo."* This was later followed by a second film, *"Drum,"* both of which were international hits. On September 9, 1973, Norton was awarded the internationally famed Napoleon Hill Award for being an "outstanding positive thinker." Norton was the first athlete and the first African American to receive the honor.

Ken believes in pushing himself to the limit and being the best that he can possibly be. Growing up in Jacksonville, Illinois, boxing was not one of Norton's early interests. He earned a football, basketball, and track scholarship

to Northeast Missouri State College, and it wasn't until he enlisted in the Marine Corps that Ken was introduced to boxing. In time, Ken became the best boxer to ever fight for the Marine Corps, and was awarded the North Carolina AAU Golden Gloves, International AAU, and Pan American titles. Later Ken was inducted into the Marine Corps Sport Hall of Fame.

Ken became a Corporal in the Marine Corps.



## George Jones

George Jones first hit the charts in 1955 with "Why, Baby, Why."

Jones has won numerous awards throughout his career beginning in 1956 as *Billboard* magazine's "Most Promising New Country Vocalist" to country music's ultimate recognition—his 1992 induction into the Country Music Hall of Fame. In 2002 he was awarded the National Medal of Arts Honor for artistic excellence. Jones has George Jones first hit the charts in 1955 with "Why, Baby, Why."

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of Arts Honor for artistic excellence. Jones has won two Grammys—separated by eighteen years—the first in 1981 and the second in 1999.

Mr. Jones recently celebrated his fiftieth anniversary as a recording artist with the release of a three CD set entitled *George Jones 50 Years of Hits*, which featured one hit for each year of his career.

George Jones was a Private First Class while in the Marine Corps.



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## Bum Phillips

Born Oail A. Phillips Jr. in Orange, Texas, Bum got his nickname from his older sister who could not pronounce “brother.”

Mr. Phillips’ football coaching career began in Nederland, Texas, in 1950 and includes a total of thirteen years at the high school level, six years in college, and seventeen years in the National Football League—eleven as head coach and general manager for which he gained the most notoriety.

Bum Phillips was named head coach and general manager of the Houston Oilers in 1975. Although the Oilers had won just eight games in the prior three seasons, Bum was able to raise the franchise to a perennial play-off contender with three consecutive play-

off appearances in 1978, 1979, and 1980.

Appointed head coach and general manager of the New Orleans Saints in 1981, Phillips moved to Louisiana where he brought the Saints back into the game. After five years there, Bum retired from football and moved back home to Texas to pursue his first love—ranching.

He and his wife Debbie have six children, twenty-three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. His son, Wade, is the defensive coordinator of the San Diego Chargers.

Bum Phillips was a Private in the Marine Corps.



## Lee Trevino

Lee Trevino’s biggest thrill was winning the 1971 U.S. Open in Oak Hill. In a four-week period that year, Trevino won three of golf’s prestige competitions—the U.S. Open, the Canadian Open, and the British Open.

Raised next door to the Glen Lake Country Club in Dallas, Trevino got started as a caddy. Self-taught as a youth, he became the protégée of Hardy Greenwood. In 1960 he got his first job working as an assistant professional in El Paso, Texas.

Despite a freak accident in which Trevino was struck by lightning at the Western Open, he eventually lifted the U.S. PGA trophy in 1984, much to the surprise of the golfing community.

Trevino served in the Marine Corps for four years from age seventeen to twenty-one. He left as a Lance Corporal. In 2001 Trevino was inducted into the Marine Corps Sport Hall of Fame.



## Jo Jo White

Jo Jo White, a consummate professional basketball player, was such a dynamic and gifted all-around athlete that the Dallas Cowboys and the Cincinnati Reds both drafted him. White, however, chose basketball and the Celtics.

A major highlight of White’s career occurred on June 4, 1976, at the Boston Garden in Game 5 of the NBA Championship Finals against the Phoenix Suns. White led the Celtics with 33 points spread out over 60 minutes in the 128-126 triple-overtime victory. That season, he was crowned the NBA Finals Most Valuable Player.

White may have invented the term, “ironman streak,” in the NBA. From the 1972-73 season through the 1976-77 campaign, five consecutive seasons, White played in all 82 regular season games for the Celtics—such stats are unheard of today. For seven straight seasons White logged more than 3200 minutes per season. He was

named to the NBA All-Star Team each of those seven years. The Boston Celtics later retired his number 10 jersey.

Mr. White remains with the Celtics organization, serving as Director of Special Projects and Community Relations Representative. He continues to remain an active member of the National Basketball Retired Players Association.

From June 1969-1976 Jo Jo White was a Private First Class in the Marine Corps.



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## Tom Seaver

George Thomas Seaver was born in Fresno, California. He became known as the franchise power pitcher who transformed the New York Mets from losers into a team to be reckoned with.

The quintessential professional, Seaver won 311 games with a 2.86 ERA over twenty seasons and his 3,272 strikeouts set a National League career record. Seaver fanned 3,640 batters in his career, including two hundred or more ten times, and once struck out nineteen in a single game. “Number 41” was the National League Rookie of the Year in 1967, a three-time Cy Young Award winner, and made more Opening Day starts, sixteen, than any pitcher in history. The Baseball Writers Association of America elected Seaver to the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1992.

During his formidable career, Tom Seaver played for the New York Mets (1967-1977, 1983), Cincinnati Reds (1977-1982), Chicago White Sox (1984-1986), and the Boston Red Sox (1986). Other important dates include: 1969 NLCS, 1969 World Series, 1973 NLCS, 1973 World Series, 1979 NLCS and was selected to play in thirteen All-Star Games in 1967-1973, 1975-1978, 1981.

“He’s so good that blind people come to the park just to hear him pitch,” said Reggie Jackson.

Tom Seaver was a Private First Class in the Marine Corps. He was inducted into the Marine Corps Sport Hall of Fame in 2003.

*Biography facts courtesy of Baseball Hall of Fame.*



## Wilford Brimley

Wilford Brimley is well known for his performances in *The Firm*, *Absence of Malice*, and *Cocoon*. He is also familiar to television audiences from his appearances in a long-running series of Quaker Oats commercials and is currently doing an endorsement for Liberty Medical.

He is also known for starring in the family-oriented television series, *Our House*.

Other notable performances include a nuclear plant employee in *The China Syndrome* (1979), *The Electric Horseman* (1979), *The Thing* (1982), *Tender Mercies* (1983), *Country*, *The Natural*, *The Stone Boy*, *Hotel New Hampshire* (all 1984), and a leading role in *End of the Line* (1987).

From 1953-56 Wilford Brimley proudly served in the United States Marine Corps and was honorably discharged as Sergeant.



## Art Donovan Jr.

Arthur Donovan Jr., football giant extraordinaire, was born in Bronx, New York, and graduated from Boston College. Donovan, the defensive tackle in the “greatest game ever played”—1958 NFL Championship Game where the Baltimore Colts defeated the New York Giants, 23-17, in overtime—was unstoppable for more than a decade.

On the field, his 265 pounds and 6' 2" frame intimidated the opposition, but his smile and star personality attracted fans by the thousands.

Donovan joined the National Football League’s Baltimore Colts in 1950. The team moved in 1951 to become the New York Yanks and relocated again in 1952 to become the Dallas Texans. The team returned “home” in 1953 as the Baltimore Colts. During his twelve-year tenure in the pros, Art Donovan was named Outstanding Defensive Tackle. Between 1953-1957, he was chosen to play in five

Pro Bowl games plus the World Championships in 1958 and 1959. In 1962 the Colts retired Art’s uniform, number 70, when he departed from pro football. Five years later, he became the first Baltimore Colt to receive the sport’s grandest honor—membership in the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Art’s father, Arthur Donovan, was a very prominent boxing referee. He refereed 21 of Joe Louis’s fights plus many others. He served in WWI and WWII plus the Mexican Border War. Art’s grandfather, Mike O’Donovan, was middleweight champion of the world and served in the Civil War.

Art Donovan Jr. spent three years in military service during World War II with the United States Marine Corps as a Private First Class. In 2004 he was inducted into the Marine Corps Sport Hall of Fame.



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## Dan Lauria

Dan Lauria is most recognized as the dad on the highly-acclaimed, Emmy-winning, ABC television show, *The Wonder Years*. He has guest starred in over seventy television episodic programs and boasts an impressive score of film credits, which include: *Stakeout*, *Another Stakeout*, *Independence Day*, and most recently, *Big Momma Two*.

In regional theatre, Mr. Lauria has performed in, written and/or directed over fifty productions. For ten years he served as the artistic director of the Playwright's Kitchen Ensemble of Los Angeles. With PKE, he produced over four hundred and fifty public readings of new plays with the finest actors in the business in order to promote the development of new American playwrights.

Serving in the Marine Corps from 1970 to 1973, Dan Lauria entered as a 2nd Lieutenant and left as a Captain.

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