Throwing out the first pitch was Eddle's honor down at Tiger stadium in 1982.

News veteran Eddie Edgar dies at 88

The Stroller is gone.
Wilson William "Eddic" Edgar,
88, a Journalist whose name was year
nonmous with Detroit-area sporting
events for half a century and a reporter and fixture of suburban journalism for 70 years died Sunday afternoon in St. Mary's Hospital, in
Livenia.
He had been hospitalized since
April 30. He died of heart failure and
complications from surgery, according to Sister Mary Modesta, president of St. Mary Hospital.
Working for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers for the past 22years, Edgar was best known for his
made observations about the suburban scene. He also served as a reorder and editor at the newspaper.

HE WAS so well known that when

HE WAS so well known that when calling news sources, he identified himself only as "Eddie from the pa-

Before coming to the O&E, he worked at the Detroit Free Press, including a stint as sports editor. He left the Free Press in 1948 to become executive secretary of the Detroit Bowling Proprietors Associa-

tion and to organize a state bowling association.

A 48-year resident of Livonia, he played a leading role in that city's incorporation in 1950 and was the vice president of the first Livonia (Cty Council).

He also was a longstanding member of the Plymouth Rotary where he was a longstanding member of the Plymouth Rotary where he was a long to the play of the property of the was a long to the play of the play o

"WE ALL will miss Eddie. For years we've been treated to his sto-

rics of sports legends," sald managing editor Steve Barnaby.
"A much younger staff always was amazed at Eddie's energy and determination to remain an active reporter. He truly is to be admired," said Barnaby.

After suffering a heart attack earlier this year, Edgar returned towork just days later and wrote a coincident of the same of the sa

"A conversation with Eddie over a cup of coffee would casily mean a story about one of many sports greats — Ty Cobb, Mickey Cochrane, Schoolboy Rowe, Knute Rockne," said O&E photographer Art Ernanucle, a close friend of Ernanucle noted that Edgar and him had met for years in the cafeteria calling themselves the 9:14 club, "because we always met at 9:14 in the morning."

the morning."

EDGAR WAS especially proud of his Tiger baseball opening day record. This year he marked his Sard consecutive Tiger opener.

But Edgar admitted that his very first Tiger opener was his biggest thrill.

In a recent column he recalled that chilly afternoon when "this round disciple of Pennsylvania Dutch heritage climbed the ladder and crossed on a cat walk to his place in the Tigers press box for the first time.

the Tigers press box for the first time.

"Never can he forget his first sight of the immortal Ty Cobb swinging three bats as he walked to the plate for his first time at bat.

"Oh, there has been many a thrilling moment while seated high up in the press box. But thrilling as they were, none ever will match the loy-ous and almost unbellevable thrill he had on his first trip to this seventh heaven of sports writers."

FOR MORE than 20 wars be

heaven of sports writers."
FOR MORE than 20 years he broadcast bowling matches over radio station WIR. He is generally credited with taking bowling a popular poper in the Detroit are a reporter with the Catesacuu Dispatch in Pennsylvania. He moved to Allentown, Fa., the next year.
His 1924 move to the Free Press

took place because of a misunderstanding during a conversation with poet and Free Press employee Edgar Guest, who was visiting Allentown.

"Try the Free Press," Guest told him, meaning try reading the paper. Edgar thought Guest was telling him to apply for a job.

Guest found Edgar sitting on the steps of the Free Press when he returned to Detroit. He sistyed with the Free Press for 25 years.

Edgar became a Livenia resident in 1938, when the community was a best of the press for 25 years.

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Edgar is survived by his wife.



Joe Louis, Detroit's "Brown Bomber," one of the greatest heavyweight fighters, had great help along the wip his "discovers" and closest advisors, Eddle Edgar.



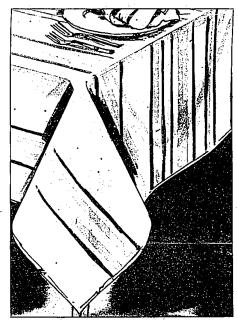
1982 Eddie was recognized by Schoolcraft bliege with an honorary degree, Congratu-



Leona, Eddie's wife of nearly 56 years, was always there to share the joy and happiness.



A young Wilson W. "Eddle" Edgar came to De-troit from Pennsylvania in 1924 to begin work at the Detroit Free Press. In 1964, at the age of 67, he joined the Observer Newspapers.



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