

Inducted November 5, 2015

## Dick Pettys (1945 – 2012)



Dick Pettys, who died at age 66 in 2012, was a well-known Georgia political reporter for the Associated Press for 35 years. During his career, he covered the terms of seven governors, from Lester Maddox through Sonny Perdue. Pettys retired in 2005.

Pettys spent his career covering politics and was a familiar face at the Georgia State Capitol, earning the nickname “dean” of the Capitol press corps. His thorough but fair reporting earned him the respect of his colleagues as well as the politicians he covered. Pettys also served as a mentor to many journalists getting started in their careers.

In 1992, Pettys received two awards for a story on a hidden slush fund within the Georgia State House of Representatives: the Associated Press Managing Editors Association Award for Top AP Reportorial Performance and the AP Broadcasters Award for Best State Enterprise Story.

Pettys was actively involved as a volunteer leader in the Atlanta Area Council, Boy Scouts of America, where he served as a Cubmaster and a Scoutmaster. He was awarded the Scouters Key, the Scouters Training Award, the North Atlanta District Award of Merit and earned the Scout Leaders’ Wood Badge beads. In 1984, he was awarded the Atlanta Area Council Silver Beaver Award, the highest award the Boy Scouts of America can bestow.

The Georgia State Capitol Senate press gallery and the Capitol Media Center were named in Pettys’ honor after his passing.