



NATIONAL GYM ASSOCIATION

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Earl “The Pearl” Snyder

NGA Hall of Fame – 2021

The NGA Hall of Fame was created in 2014 with the purpose of honoring those who have championed the sport of natural bodybuilding and have made exceptional contributions that have furthered the growth, reputation, and character of not only the NGA, but the sport of natural bodybuilding that we hold in such high esteem.

This year, the NGA Hall of Fame inductee is Earl “The Pearl” Snyder. Earl epitomizes the sport of natural bodybuilding completely and as the NGA is celebrating its 42nd year, a part of this continued legacy is due to him.

Earl started his career with a highly successful wrestling background. He was inducted into the Wrestling Hall of Fame shortly after graduating from Drake University with a full wrestling scholarship.

Earl has been competing internationally for the USA since 1990 when he started a lengthy career of well-deserved recognition in the world of Bodybuilding. As a natural competitor, he was awarded the National Award for Best Sportsmanship. From there he went on to clinch countless renowned titles from all over the world such as the CAN/Am Olympus Masters, the World Bodybuilding Championships (3 times), the Mr. Universe (2 times), the European Championships and a 4-time Team Universe Winner. He has competed in over 17 countries including England, Virgin Islands, China, Canada, Australia, Poland, Czech Republic, Guam, Japan, Puerto Rico, Guatemala, Italy, France, Russia, Germany, Austria, Spain and of course the Good Ole USA! Most importantly, Earl has competed all over the world

as a natural athlete. Capitalizing on his success as a natural bodybuilder, he has had many corporate sponsors, shot several commercials and even has his own posing DVD video.

Despite his many accolades and accomplishments, Earl remains a very humble person. He was born and raised in a very small town in Pennsylvania where he emerged as the “hometown hero.” He has donated his time throughout the years towards motivational speaking and helping many children groups in his community. As a single parent who has raised his daughter alone, he managed to maintain a full-time career with the Department of Corrections; all this while simultaneously being a personal trainer and competing across the world! To say this guy really knows how to juggle a family, a career, and going most of the months of every year on a bodybuilding diet is really saying something special!

Earl has worn many hats in the NGA. He has competed in many NGA shows including being on this very stage, the NGA PRO Universe. He has promoted many successful and large shows in Pennsylvania. He was given the title as the NGA National Director of Promoter Relations. He has traveled throughout the United States to ensure that all NGA shows are adhering to the NGA Bylaws. He created a means of scoring our judge’s scores. Judges at every show are evaluated to ensure that their judging is up to par. He has been an NGA judge, an NGA Head Judge, a scorer, and an MC.

After a well-deserved retirement, he resides in his dream home in Margaritaville Daytona Beach with the love of his life Terri Bollinger-Whitsel. He continues to train clients in Margaritaville as an NGA Certified Personal Trainer. We welcome Earl “The Pearl” Snyder into the NGA Hall of Fame!