

Edna Runnels Ranck, Ed.D.



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Dr. Edna Runnels Ranck.

Edna was a long-time member of the National Association for Regulatory Administration (NARA). She served five two-year terms as an At-Large Member of the NARA National Council from 2001-2006. Ranck served as chair of NARA's Silent Auction Committee from 2001- 2005, when the agency issued a publication entitled, "NARA Guide for Successful Silent Auctions." The booklet was researched and written by Dr. Ranck, with the assistance of Judy Collins, Ann Ditty, Pauline Koch, Glenda Lacey, Robert Steinberg, Joyce West and Lynn White. It contained step-by-step procedures for conducting effective silent auctions. The proceeds from the auctions fund NARA's Norris E. Class Professional Development and Research Fund, which was launched in 1985. The Fund supports a variety of educational and professional growth programs sponsored by NARA.

Edna directed a preschool child development center, administered a large family child development home network, and co-directed a county-based resource and referral agency. In New Jersey, she also served as Child Care Coordinator for the NJ Department of Human Services (DHS).

In Washington, she served as director of public policy for a national non-profit and administered contracts with the US Army, Marine Corps and the US Air Force. She directed a national accreditation project for the Washington Child Development Council. She has published book chapters and journal articles and has been a member of national and local boards of directors. She holds degrees in political science, theology, educational administration and curriculum and teaching/public policy.

Edna served as Child Care Coordinator in the New Jersey Department of Human Services in Trenton, NJ from 1986-1998. In that role, she assisted the NJ Child Care Advisory Council, provided information for the DHS Commissioner and Governor of New Jersey, responded to requests from government agencies and from print and electronic media and prepared reports and correspondence for government officials.

She earned a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Florida State University and an Ed.D. in education administration and public policy from Columbia University, where she was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa and Who's Who in America.

At Florida State, Ranck later became Director of Undergraduate Studies for International Affairs and Director of the Institute on World War II and the Human Experience. She also was an Associate Professor of History in the Department of History at the University of Tennessee and Assistant Professor at Drew University in Madison, NJ. From November 2008 to October 2010, Edna was a Child Care Resource and Referral Counselor and a CDA Professional Development Specialist and PCQI (preventive controls qualified individual) at the Washington Child Development Council.

Dr. Ranck also the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) and the United States National Committee of Organization Mondiale pour l'Education Prescolaire (OMEP) – the World Organization for Early Childhood Education, referred to as OMEP-USA. Dr. Ranck served as President of OMEP-USA, which issued the following memorial statement: "IN MEMORIAM Dr. Edna Ranck, 1935-2020, Past President OMEP USA. Thank you for a life dedicated to the cause of young children. You will always live in the OMEPians hearts."

From 2010 until she retired, Dr. Ranck worked as a self-employed Early Childhood Consultant based in Washington, DC. In that position, she worked with individual child care program administrators and staff to upgrade their curricula and program sites.