

## Dick Crippen



Dick Crippen is currently senior advisor with the Tampa Bay Rays. He serves on 11 boards of directors including the St. Petersburg YMCA; PARC, United Way of Tampa Bay Advisory Board; Florida Blood Services; Blossom Montessori School for the Deaf, CASA (Trustee); Pinellas Education Foundation; P.A.L Advisory Board, the Salvation Army Advisory Board and CharityWorks Advisory Board. He is also a lifetime member of the board for the Suncoast Ronald MacDonald Houses. He serves on the President's Associates at Eckerd College and also the Ethics Advisory Board at St. Pete.College. Recently, he was appointed as an Honorary Vice Commander of the 6<sup>th</sup> Air Mobility Wing at MacDill Air Force Base.2011-2013.

Dick has been a staple of Tampa Bay Area broadcasting for better than four decades. For more than 35 years he served as sports director at both the NBC affiliate (19 years for WFLA-TV) and before that at the then ABC affiliate (16 years for WTSP-TV). He has also worked extensively in radio and was best known as part of the Q Morning Zoo on Q105 Radio and Mason in the Mornings on Mix 96.

His sports broadcasting also included several years with NASCAR's Motor Racing Network and 17 years doing the radio broadcasts for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. He also served as stadium announcer and television broadcaster for the Tampa Bay Rowdies.

Crippen's work has taken him around the country as he broadcast the Unlimited Hydroplane Circuit on ESPN for 10 years and has also been a voice for Offshore Powerboat Racing. He has also broadcast a drag boat series, the 12 hours of Sebring, the Ft. Lauderdale Air & Sea Show, motorcycle racing and has hosted several syndicated shows.

He has been a member of and/or reported on the Super Bowl Task Forces that landed Super Bowls for Tampa Bay and has also been part of the birth of NFL Football, NASL Soccer, NHL Hockey and Major League Baseball in the Tampa Bay Area. His job in sports took him to 10 Super Bowls as well as Final Fours; Sugar, Orange and Fiesta Bowls; years of Florida/Florida State match-ups and several World Series. He was named Florida Sportscaster of the Year four times in the 1990's by the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association.

In the year 2001, Dick had the distinct honor of flying with the USAF Thunderbirds and also attended the Joint Civilian Orientation Conference put on by the Department of Defense. During that trip he landed on the U.S. Theodore Roosevelt Aircraft Carrier; was rescued from a pretend embassy and flown out at tree tops aboard a Chinook helicopter; witnessed a live ammunition nighttime assault and toured the War Room at the Pentagon as well as NORAD and Space Command at Cheyenne Mountain in Colorado Springs.

Dick and his wife Penny, reside in St. Petersburg.

Honors:

Induction into Sports Club of Tampa Bay Hall of Fame  
Distinguished Citizen Award – West Coast Boy Scouts of America  
Induction into the Demolay Hall of Fame  
Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Tampa- Citizen of the Year  
Boys and Girls Clubs of the Suncoast- Man of the Year  
Boys Clubs of Pinellas County- Man and Boy Award  
Clearwater for Youth- Humanitarian Award  
Chi Chi Rodriguez Foundation- Lifetime Achievement Award  
Tampa City Council- Commendation  
All American Football Foundation-Lindsey Nelson Award  
(Lifetime Achievement)  
National Football Foundation-Tom McEwen Award (contributions to football as a non-player)  
St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce-Award of Appreciation  
Tampa Sports Club- Outstanding Citizen  
Named one of 13 Magnetic Man for 2011 by PARC (Community Service)  
Volunteer of the Year 2011 by PARC