Eddie was born in Pecos, Texas. Soon thereafter, his family moved to Lubbock and finally Houston where he attended high school. He graduated from Abilene Christian University receiving a BBA in Accounting. He is also a graduate of University of Houston Law School. He began his business career as a tax accountant with Arthur Andersen & Co. After leaving Andersen in 1983, he joined with his father to specialize in real estate brokerage and property management of multi-family apartments and hotels. In 1991 he joined Tilson Homes, as controller and general counsel. In 1993, he was named President. Tilson now has members of the fourth generation of the family working in management positions making Tilson one of the oldest family owned and continuously operated homebuilders in Texas.

Eddie was the 2007 President of the Greater Houston Builders Association. He served for three years as the Chairman of Legal Affairs Committee for Texas Association of Builders (TAB). He was the 2010-2011 Chairman of TAB's Government Relations Committee. He is currently President of TAB. At the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), he is the National Area Chairman (NAC) of Region 12. As a NAC, he serves on the NAHB Executive Board and he is NAHB Build PAC trustee.

Eddie and Brenda have been married for thirty two years. They have one son, Brandon, who is a CPA and controller at Tilson. Brandon and his wife, Rebecca have one daughter, Kate.