

2016 Cabarrus County Sports Hall of Fame Induction

October 29, 2016

5:00 P.M.

Program of Induction

Greeting	Tony McClamrock
Procession – Current Members of CCSHOF (Please Stand)	
Invocation	Harry Mills
Introductions – Current Members of CCSHOF	Laffette Jordan
Introductions – Committee Members	Andy Andrews
Brief History & Sponsors	Tony McClamrock
2016 Awards Presentation	E.Z. Smith, Tony McClamrock, Andy Andrews
Closing Remarks	Tony McClamrock



Don't forget to visit:

Concord Museum located at the old courthouse downtown.

Cabarrus County Sports Hall of Fame Committee

Tony McClamrock, Chairman

Andy Andrews, Vice-Chairman

Harry Mills, Secretary

Jimmy Auten, Treasurer

Scott Barringer

Grey Clarke

James Fleming

Laffette Jordan

Gene Furr, Photographer

John Patterson, Fundraiser

Becky McClamrock, Committee Assistant

Dane Laney

Bryan Tyson

Hospitality Committee

Paiti Cochran, Doris Mills, Donna Mauldin, Julie Thomas, Cheryle Von Egidy

2016 Cabarrus County Sports Hall of Fame — Inductees

Lloyd Anderson "Dink" Jordan Concord High School Graduate - 1954

- Played baseball at CHS from 1951 - 1954 and was a 4-year starter.
- Also played football and basketball.
- Played American Legion baseball and also played in the local semi-pro baseball leagues from 1952 - 1955.
- Attended and graduated from Pfeiffer College.
- Played baseball at Pfeiffer from 1957 - 1958 & 1960 - 1961.
- Dink coached multiple sports at Harrisburg High School & Central Cabarrus High School.
- Was the first coach at Harrisburg High School in football and coached girls basketball, boys baseball and track.
- Was the first coach at Central Cabarrus High School in football, girls basketball and boys baseball.
- Only CCHS football coach to win conference title and to average 7.5 — 8 wins every year.
- Dink was a teacher, coach and principal for 35 years and coached and influenced the lives of hundreds of Cabarrus County athletes and students.
- Served in the U.S. Army.
- He is a member of McGill Baptist Church and served as a deacon.
- Dink was married to his high school sweetheart for 60 years until her passing in 2015. Together they raised 3 children; Julie, Danny and Monty. He has 6 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.



Benny Max Kennerly Concord High School Graduate - 1959

- Played and lettered in football 3 years, basketball 3 years and baseball 2 years at Concord.
- Was Co-captain and All-South Piedmont Conference and Lineman of the Year his senior year.
- Graduated from Lenoir Rhyne University 1963.
- Played and lettered in football and baseball 4 years at Lenoir Rhyne.
- Named the team's Most Improved Player in 1960.
- Named Captain of the football team in 1962.
- Played in 3 NAIA National Championship Bowl games, 1959, 1960 and 1962. The 1960 team won the NAIA National Championship.
- Named the Outstanding Lineman in the team's national semi-final win over Northern State (SD) in 1962.
- Was a three-time All-Conference and All-NAIA District player.
- Named to the All-State Collegiate team in 1962 by the Greensboro Daily News.
- Quote: "Only player I have seen intercept a pass on the line of scrimmage while fighting off a blocker."
- Inducted into the Lenoir Rhyne University Sports Hall of Fame in 1988.
- He is married to Mary Ann Kennerly. They have a son, a daughter and 5 grandchildren.



Richard L. Lefler Hartsell High School Graduate - 1964

- 1960 - 1964 - Played football, basketball and baseball earning 4 letters in each sport (12 letters).
- Selected All-conference in each sport.
- Was offered 8 college scholarships.
- Never lost a game while pitching in high school.
- Pitched 4 no-hit, no-run games.
- Pitched a "perfect" game against Parkwood High School his senior year. Also posted a .078 earned run average his senior year.
- Played 4 years for Concord's American Legion Post 51 baseball team.
- In basketball, Richard averaged 22 points per game for Hartsell in 1964-65.
- Once scored 58 points in an All-Star game played at the old Charlotte Coliseum.
- Signed to play professional baseball with the Baltimore Orioles organization in 1965.
- Began playing in the Class "A" rookie league in Bluefield, West Virginia and played there for 2 years.
- The following year he was picked up by the New York Mets organization. While pitching in an exhibition game against the University of Miami he injured his throwing arm, ending his professional career.
- After baseball, Richard began playing softball and played 5 years with Lynn-Corriher as an outfielder. This team finished second to Howard's Furniture in league play.



- He also played with Shelby's Major Open Carolina "A's," a national traveling team playing in major open tournaments.
- Richard also played for Ritchie Auto Parts, winning the Class "C" State Championship. In the tournament Richard managed to get 26 hits in 28 at bats.

Houston Leigh Concord High School Graduate - 1960

- Played football at Concord 1957-1959. Was named All-County his senior year.
- Played and lettered in baseball all four years and was selected Most Valuable Player for the Spiders. Named to the All-South Piedmont Conference team.
- Played and lettered in basketball.
- Attended Wingate Jr. College and Appalachian State University. Played and lettered in baseball at Appalachian for 2 years.
- Houston continued his love of sports by playing softball in the 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's and 90's. He played for a time with Honeycutt Motors, and in 1973 his team beat Howard Furniture's World Champion Softball team 3 times.
- Coached and taught 30 years in Cabarrus County Schools including Cannon Jr. High, Kannapolis, Clara Harris 7th Grade School, Concord Jr. High, Concord Middle School, and Concord High School.
- Coached and taught current Hall of Fame members E.Z. Smith, Michael Morton, Kellie Kennedy. Coached baseball with HOF member Bill Ford and football with E. Z. Smith.
- He coached both boys' and girls' sports - basketball, baseball, football, softball, and golf - at the middle school/Jr. High and the high school levels.
- Was honored by Cabarrus County Sports Hall of Fame by inductee, Quin Dionne, for being a special teacher and coach.
- Has been a great role model, motivator and leader for young athletes and adults in Cabarrus County all his life which is further emphasized by the closing statement in the HOF nomination letter, written by his son, Andrew. Andrew describes himself as the "proud son of a wonderful father and great mentor."
- Houston is now retired.



Nicholas J. Maddox A.L. Brown High School Graduate - 1999

- Lettered in football, basketball and track 4 years.
- Football tailback starting his sophomore season.
- Easily one of Cabarrus County's most decorated players. Led A.L. Brown to the State 3A football title, amassed 4 state records in the game, totaled 332 all-purpose yards and was named the game's Most Valuable Player.
- In 1998 he was chosen by sports writers as the recipient for almost every pre-season award statewide and led A.L. Brown to a 13-1 record, losing only to Kings Mountain in the State Playoffs.
- In 1997 and 1998 he was selected as a Parade All-American and the Associated Press North Carolina Football Player of the Year.
- In 1999 Nick was chosen the NCHSAA Male Athlete of the Year.
- Again in 1999 he was chosen a Parade All-American and first team USA Today All-USA selection, and the USA Today North Carolina Player of the Year.
- In his career as a prep player, he finished with 6,624 rushing yards and 114 touchdowns.
- His top tier recognition as a football player by national experts include:
 - Was Tom Lemming's Number 1 prospect in the Mid-Atlantic Region and Number 2 nationally.
 - Super-Preps named him number 4 running back and ranked him the number 14 player nationally.
 - Regarded the number 8 prospect in the country by Sporting News.
 - Named the 1998 Gatorade Circle of Champions High School Player of the Year in Southern Region and in the state of North Carolina.
 - Selected number 1 player in North Carolina by Bill Buchalter.
- Played in the 1998 North Carolina/South Carolina Shrine Bowl game and was voted Offensive Player of the Game.
- Received numerous football scholarship offers, but accepted the offer from Florida State and played on the 1999 Seminoles NCAA Championship team.
- Played in the NFL for the Cleveland Browns, San Diego Chargers and the Carolina Panthers.
- After retiring from the NFL, he took a position as Vice-President of Development for the Bowden Foundation and Florida State University.
- In 2010 Nick ran for County Commissioner in Leon County Florida and won. He and his wife and daughter reside there today.



Earl F. Mason**Hartsell High School Graduate - 1953**

- Outstanding Cabarrus County athlete, coach, teacher and administrator.
- Played football, baseball and basketball all four years while at Hartsell. Was All-County and All-Conference in basketball.
- In 1954 was drafted and served in the U.S. Army until 1956.
- Enrolled at Wingate Junior College in 1956 and while there played football and basketball through 1958.
- Attended Appalachian State University beginning in 1958. Graduated in 1960 with a double major in social studies and physical education.
- Began coaching girls' basketball at Harrisburg High School in 1961. From 1962 through 1966, Earl coached boys' basketball at Harrisburg with his teams recording 90 wins and only 38 losses.
- In 1966 Earl began coaching boys' basketball at Central Cabarrus High School. His 1967 through 1977 teams recorded 165 wins and only 76 losses. Overall his teams recorded 255 wins and 114 losses over a seventeen year period while winning multiple conference championships.
- Named Cabarrus County Coach of the Year in 1971 and 1972.
- He served as a teacher, assistant principal and athletic director at Central Cabarrus from 1974 until his retirement in 1993.
- Member of the VFW and named "Man of the Year" by the Central Cabarrus Lions Club.

**David Franklin "Dink" Widenhouse****Concord High School Graduate - 1953**

- Raced all over North Carolina and South Carolina in the 1950's and 1960's. Also raced the tracks in Virginia, Georgia and Florida - just about anywhere you could find modified racing.
- Began racing at 15 years of age and won his first race at age 18.
- Competed against the very best in racing including Junior Johnson, Dale Earnhardt, Fireball Roberts, Ned

**Gerald Spencer Blackburn****J. W. Cannon High School Graduate - 1949**

- Played high school football and baseball. (J.W. Cannon/A.L. Brown).
- Played high school baseball 1947 - 1949 and was named All-State and All-Conference.
- A left handed pitcher, he was 12-0 for Kannapolis Post 115 American Legion State Champions in 1947.
- In the 1947 Regionals, he pitched a no-hit/no-run game against Little Rock, Arkansas, striking out 19 batters and was named to the All-Regional Team.
- On May 12, 1948 he set the record of 23 strikeouts in a 9-inning game against Lexington High School. He also had 2 games with 22 strikeouts and one game with 21 strikeouts. On May 3, 1949 he reset the A.L. Brown record with 26 strikeouts in a 9-inning game against Central High School.
- Gerald played Minor League professional baseball from 1950 - 1955 with Cincinnati Reds farm teams. He was called up to the majors and briefly played with Cincinnati.
- Coached the Post 115 American Legion Team with Hall of Fame Coach Bill Ford from 1960-1964. The 1964 Post 115 team won the State Championship.
- Selected to the American Legion Hall of Fame in 1973.

**Betty Beam Cartner****Odell High School Graduate - 1957**

- Played basketball 4 years and was starting offensive forward all 4 years.
- Selected 3 straight years to the Granite Belt All-Conference team, 3 straight years to the Cabarrus County All-Tournament team, and 2 straight years to the Granite Belt All-Tournament team.
- Set the Cabarrus County individual scoring record in January 1955 by scoring 79 points against Bethel High School and that record likely stands today. The final score of that game was 104 - 67.
- On March 2, 1956, in the Granite Belt Conference Tournament championship game, Betty scored 71 points.
- On January 18, 1957, she scored 69 points (30 in the first quarter) against



Jarrett, Cale Yarborough, Buck Baker, Speedy Thompson, Cotton Owens, the Flock brothers, Joe Weatherly, and the Pettys to name a few. During this period, Dink was one of the top Sportsman and Modified racers in the nation.

- A threat to win every time he got behind the wheel, his number "B-29" car was one of the South's most recognizable race cars.
- He is considered one of the original "intimidators." In one year, he won 21 races. In 1954 he won all 14 races at Myrtle Beach Speedway and won more than 200 races during his career.
- Raced the Grand National series in the 60's.
- Lee Petty wanted him for the Petty team and Holman-Moody wanted him for their team, but he preferred the Sportsman and Modified circuits.
- In 2013, he was inducted into the Augusta Hall of Fame.
- He is known and respected by all of the great Nascar drivers.
- Dink had all the driving skills, competitive spirit, and determination to be a winner.
- Born, raised and resides in Cabarrus County.

Steven Boyd Yates**Central Cabarrus County High School Graduate - 1971**

- Played football and ran track all four years.
- Named All-Conference two years and selected as the team's most valuable player.
- Selected to the North Carolina Shrine Bowl team in 1971.
- Attended Western Carolina University and played football 1967 - 1971.
- An outstanding linebacker, Steve was named to Western Carolina's All 20th Century Team.
- Ranked first or second in tackles for three seasons, including 110 tackles in 1972 and is among WCU career leaders in other defensive statistics.
- Selected AP All-American in football two times, 1972 and 1974. He is the only twice selected WCU All-American.
- Inducted into the Western Carolina University Sports Hall of Fame in 2009. Coach Bob Waters called him "most intense player I've had at Western Carolina."
- Has been a great caregiver in recent years for his elderly parents.



2016 Cabarrus County Sports Hall of Fame — Posthumous Inductees

Hartsell High School. Odell scored 53 points in the first quarter on the way to a final 105 - 70 win.

- With Betty at forward, Odell High School's women's team won 44 straight games until losing to A.L. Brown by a score of 53-52. The team's overall record during Betty's playing time was 80 wins and only 13 losses.
- Worked as Payroll Secretary for ABC Industries and 20 years for Allstate Insurance Company.
- She was married to her high-school sweetheart, John Frank Cartner, for 45 years and was a member of Mallard Creek Presbyterian Church.
- Betty passed away in March, 2003.

Daniel Philip Dayvault**A. L. Brown High School Graduate - 1968**

- Played quarterback for A. L. Brown from 1965 through 1967 and was named to the All-South Piedmont Conference and All-State football teams in 1967. He was also named All-American in several publications.
- Was selected for the North Carolina East/West All-Star football game in 1968 and was the starting quarterback.
- Received the A.L. Brown Owen C. Hill Trophy for football in 1966 and again in 1967.
- Attended Chowan Jr. College 1968-1969 and was the starting quarterback.
- Attended Memphis State University on a football scholarship from 1971-1973. In his two seasons as a running back, he passed and rushed for over 1,500 yards.
- Graduated from Memphis State in 1973 with a degree in Health Science.
- Was a "walk on" for the NFL New York Jets in 1973 and made the practice squad. In 1974 he was invited back by legendary coach Weeb Eubank.
- At A.L. Brown he received the Most Valuable Player Award in basketball his senior season, 1968.
- Was named to the All-State basketball team in 1968 and was also selected and started for the West team in the 1968 East/West All-Star basketball game.
- Was employed by Charlotte Motor Speedway working for Humpy Wheeler and in later years he worked for the town of Landis.
- Dan passed away on October 18, 2014 and is survived by his wife Kathy, son Max and daughter Lauren.



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Burl S. Morris

Concord High School Graduate - 1957

- Played both football and baseball for four years and basketball two years.
- Named All-County in football his senior year.
- In baseball, he was named to the South Piedmont All-Conference team his senior year.
- Played on Concord's Post 51 American Legion Baseball team from 1953-1955.
- Attended and graduated from East Carolina University where he lettered 4 years in baseball.
- Was the starting catcher on the 1961 East Carolina National Championship baseball team.



- 2182
- Burl began his teaching and coaching career in 1962 at Mooresville High School where he was head baseball coach for 2 years.
 - In 1964 Burl began teaching and coaching at East Rowan High School. Coached baseball there for 4 years, his baseball teams winning two conference championships.
 - Deciding to make a career change to administration, Burl moved on to Thomasville where he taught and coached at the Thomasville Middle School while pursuing his Masters Degree in Administration. He then became assistant principal at Thomasville Middle School.
 - Taught and coached in the Thomasville City School system for 27 years and retired in 1975 after a total of 33 years.
 - He had a passion for the Concord Boys & Girls Club which he credits with changing his life.

CABARRUS COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Established in 2011 by Tony McClamrock and a Committee then comprised of Doug Harward, Jim Kilgore, Bob Mauldin, Donnie Whittington, and Wayne Williams, the Cabarrus County Sports Hall of Fame was created to recognize and honor outstanding achievements by athletes, coaches, and contributors who have brought significant recognition to themselves and Cabarrus County through athletics. The Hall of Fame is governed by the current Committee listed in this program according to the by-laws established by that Committee. An awards presentation is held each October at the Concord Boys and Girls Club. Awards and administration are provided by donor contributions from area businesses and individuals.

Members of the Cabarrus County Sports Hall of Fame:

2016 Inductees

Gerald Spencer Blackburn
Betty Beam Cartner
Dan Phillip Dayvault
Lloyd Anderson "Dink" Jordan
Benny Max Kennerly
Richard L. Lefler
Houston Leigh
Nicholas J. Maddox
Earl F. Mason
Burl S. Morris
David Franklin "Dink" Widenhouse
Steven Boyd Yates

2013 Inductees

Crystal Cox-Crump
Ralph Dale Earnhardt
Margaret Hagerty
Natrone Means
Benny Arnold Moose
Melissa Morrison-Howard
Amy Privette-Perko
Arden Ray
Barbara Smith Roberson
Lance Smith
Haskel L. Stanback
Roy Thomas
Donnie Whittington
Carl A. Widenhouse

2015 Inductees

Jesse C. Banner, Sr.
John D. Coble
Aldon L. Coefield
Shonte Pinkston Grigley
Martin "Teeny" Lafferty
Harry E. Mills
Bobby Trott

2012 Inductees

George "Ick" Alley
Bill Ford
Billy Dale Goodman
Larry Eugene Honeycutt
Ethan Horton
Kellie Rose Kennedy
Claude "Bear" Little
John McInnis
Michael Anthony Morton, Jr.
Leroy Scercy
E. Z. Smith

2014 Inductees

Robert "Beetle" Auten
George Blanton
David Cook
Edwin "Eddie" Green
Laffette Jordan
Richard A. Laphish
Earl B. Lentz, Sr.
Bob Mauldin
Bill Watts

2011 Inductees

Kenneth E. Basinger
W. Frank Cannon
Quin Troxler Dionne
Charles E. Rimer
Larry "Satch" Sedberry
Gene K. Verble, Sr.

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PLEASE CONSIDER CONTRIBUTING TO THE CABARRUS COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME (see insert in program)