

# 1990 INDUCTEE



## MARY ROPER OSBORNE-HALVERSON

Category: **Player**

School(s): RJ. Reynolds High School, Mt Tabor High School

MARY ROPER OSBORNE-HAL VERSON had a high school career at Mt. Tabor and R. J. Reynolds that was noted for her academic and athletic excellence.

She was captain of the basketball team as a freshman which she maintained throughout the following years. She was captain of the volleyball, captain of the speedball, and captain of the softball teams in her sophomore years, and volleyball MVP in her junior year. She spent her final year, 1971-72. at Reynolds High School where she was captain of the basketball, captain of the volleyball, captain of speedball, captain of softball, and on the scholastic honor roll. She was All City/County in basketball, volleyball, speedball and softball.

She was the RJR most outstanding female athlete; the conference basketball MVP; the GAA outstanding senior girl; the student government treasurer; the honor council; national-honor society; President of the GAA; President of the girl's monogram club; President of the interclub council; the UNC-G playday-- RJ R senior of the year; the E. R. Moore certificate of scholastic achievement; and Who's Who in the senior class.

Her community activities included president of the youth choir, president of the youth council, the mayor's majority singing group, and various church committees.

Aller this outstanding athletic and academic performance in high school Roper went on to Wake Forest University from September 1972 to May 1976. During this time she obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Physical Education, a class A teaching certificate in health and physical education, was on the Dean's list in the spring of 1976. the Wake Forest University Taylor Dodson Scholarship nominee, an all-state basketball as senior. Sports Digest 400 Club-junior. ttre highest award in intramurals--senior, and the intramural badminton and racquetball champion as a sophomore, junior and senior. She was a member of the champion intramural basketball and softball teams for all four years at Wake Forest.

She was a member of the women's golf team her freshman, sophomore, and junior years; women's volleyball team freshman, sophomore, and senior years; women's basketball team freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior years; and captain of the basketball team as a senior.

Following her stellar high school and undergraduate careers, Ms. Osborne-Halverson went on to get a degree in nursing at Forsyth Technical Institute and now is the Head Nurse of the Cardiac Surgical Intensive Care Unit at Forsyth Memorial

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## HUBBARD "Twit" ALEXANDER

Category: Player

School(s): Atkins High School

HUBBRARD LINDSAY "TWIT" ALEXANDER earned eleven (11) varsity letters while attending Atkins High School; four (4) in football, three (3) in basketball, and four (4) in baseball.

Alexander was named captain of the 1958 football and basketball squads his senior year while capturing All-City/County and All-State honors in football.

During his tenure as a "prime-time" athlete at Atkins, "Twit" played on several District and Western AAA Conference championship teams in each sport but reached a personal zenith when he helped propel the basketball team to the N.C.N.H.S.A.A. State Championship during the 1956-57 season. Alexander was voted "Most Athletic" by his graduating classmates.

Upon graduation, Alexander was awarded a football scholarship to Tennessee State where he lettered as a freshman and started the next three (3) years. He earned All-Midwestern Conference his junior and senior years and was captain three (3) years in a row.

Recognized for his astute knowledge of the game, "Twit" was appointed Graduate Assistant of Tennessee State immediately after he graduated in 1962.

To further his coaching career, he went to Chicago where he had "burners" at George Washington High School (1963-65), Lester High (1966-70) and East High (1971-74).

Vanderbilt University lured Alexander back to the college ranks where he served from 1975-78.

As Miami University pounced on the scene during the last decade as a national power - Alexander was an Assistant Coach from 1978-88 while the Hurricanes captured two (2) National Championships.

Presently, Alexander is serving with Jimmy Johnson, his mentor at Miami, to re-establish the greatness of The Dallas Cowboy Football Club.



# 1990 INDUCTEE



## WILLIAM "Sonny" BUTLER

Category: Player

School(s): Anderson High School

WILLIAM JOSEPH "SONNY" BUTLER, JR. was the first athlete to letter in three (3) sports at Anderson High School. Butler came into his own during his senior season, 1963, by being voted "Most Athletic," while being recognized as the Most Valuable Player in football and basketball.

Butler was the leading ground gainer for the 1963 State Champion Bulldogs with over 1,000 yards. Butler also showed his versatility by leading the team in tackles from the middle linebacker position. He was selected All-City/County as a tailback and as an alternate to the Annual North Carolina High School All-Star game.

"Sonny" topped the basketball team with a 17 ppg average and led the baseball team in home runs. His prowess as the team's only switch-hitter made him "the straw that stirred the drink" in Anderson's powerful attack.

Butler graduated from Winston-Salem State University where he lettered in football and basketball. With a certification in Special Education from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Butler has served as Teacher and Coach in Pittsylvania County (1970-75), Director of Special Recreation Day Camp -Winston-Salem Recreation Department (1973-83), Special Education teacher and Assistant Coach of football and basketball and Head track coach at Glenn High School.

Butler was selected as the NCHAA (4-A) Track Coach of the Year (1986) after his Glenn High team grabbed the State Championship.

Among the many honors bestowed upon Butler, he is most proud of a commendation from the Office of the Mayor (1978) for Service in Special Recreation and being selected for publication in Outstanding Young Men In America, 1979.

Butler is a Trustee at Union Baptist Church, Past-President of Tiny Tim Kindergarten PTA (1981-84) and coach of the Tiny Indians Mitey Mites.

When "Sonny" is not busy with domestic chores assigned by his lovely wife - he can be found teaching-coaching or enjoying his favorite pastimes: golf and tennis.





# 1990 INDUCTEE



## JAMES "Jimmy" EWERS

Category: Player

School(s): Atkins High School

JAMES BENJAMIN "JIMMY" EWERS was the anchor of a Championship tennis team at Atkins High School. During his junior year (1965), Ewers was The Western District Singles champion of the North Carolina 4-A Conference and State semi-finalist. He successfully defended his Western District Crown in 1966, and became the North Carolina State Runner-up shortly thereafter.

Johnson C. Smith University awarded Ewers a four-year scholarship, where he became All-Conference each year. He holds the "Golden Bulls" school record of thirty four (34) consecutive singles victories. Ewers anchored the 1969 J.C.S.U.C.I.A.A. Championship team while holding the N.A.I.A. District 26 Singles Championship. He was also a Semi-finalist in the NCAA College Division Tournament at Rider College, 1969. He was C.I.A.A. Singles Champion 1967, 1968 and 1969.

"Jimmy's" prowess as a tennis wizard has earned him other championships that include: Garber-lash Tournament (1984), Rowan Heart Fund Tournament (1985), Englewood (N.J.) Tennis Classic (1976-77). He has been an instructor and coach for All American Sports in New York and Ballou High School in Washington, D.C.

Ewers developed a unique partnership between Ballou High School and Johnson C. Smith while he coached at Ballou. He developed and secured scholarships for seven of his players who eventually graduated from the University.

Tennis has afforded Ewers many opportunities to be involved in Civic and Charitable endeavors. Usted among his "Net pals" are: Muhammed Ali, John Amos, (T. V. Show "Good Times"), Bill Cosby, Don Hewitt (Producer, "60 Minutes"), Jayne Kennedy and Earl "The Pearl" Monroe.

Ewers received a Master's degree from Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. and a Doctorate (PhD) from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA.

Ewers belongs to the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society; listed in Who's Who among Black Americans and the National Distinguished Service Registry For Counseling and Development. He has published, "A Guide For The College Admissions Counselor and The High School Guidance Counselor: Strategies For The Recruitment of Minority Students," 1988 and "Using Black Alumni To Recruit Black Students," Ibe Journal of College Student Personnel, November, 1987, Alexandria, VA.

Ewers can presently be found on the courts of Dillard University in New Orleans where he serves as Vice-President of Student Affairs.



# 1990 INDUCTEE



## JAMES DANIEL MCNATT

Category: Player

School(s): Mt. Tabor High School

JAMES DANIEL MCNATT has never been described as your "Normal Jock." Instead, "Dan" came to be known as the All-American type student at Mt. Tabor High School.

Dan graduated in 1969, ranked 8th in his class of 155. Along the way he lettered in varsity football, baseball and track. After one game of playing guard his first varsity year, the coaches got smart and switched him to tailback where he gained 952 yards and 10 touchdowns. Dan powered for 1,033 yards and 8 touchdowns his junior year and was devastating his senior year while racking up 1,862 yards and 22 touchdowns. At the end of only three seasons at Mt. Tabor, Dan had averaged more than 100 yards per game; 5.3 yards per carry and averaged carrying the "mail" 24 times per game.

He was chosen All-City/County of 1967 and All-District 5 AAA Conference the same season. He repeated All-City/County, All-District 5 AAA his senior year and was chosen to play in the Annual North-South game at East Carolina University in August, 1969. Dan intercepted a pass in this contest that led to the winning touchdown for the North team.

McNatt was not only a gifted athlete in three sports but his achievements in the classroom and extra-curricular activities were matched by few. He served as Class President in 1966 and 1967. He was an active participant in the Key Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, The Monogram Club and became President of the Student Council his senior year. He was a Senior Superlative, being named the Most Outstanding Student. He served on the "Sword & Shield" (newspaper) staff and belonged to the National Honor Society his junior and senior years. The Winston-Salem Evening Optimist Club selected McNatt as the outstanding senior in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County High Schools.

He was offered football scholarships to Wake Forest, u. N.C., East Carolina, Guilford and Davidson. Dan rejected the athletic grants because The Morehead Scholarship Committee awarded him a four-year scholarship to the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, where he attended and graduated in 1973.

McNatt has worked as Deputy Clerk of Court, Forsyth County, The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in Washington, D.C., California and New York.

He attended Rutgers University Law School, Newark Campus (1984-87) and received his law degree. He passed the North Carolina Bar and has been employed by Womble, Carlyle, Sandridge & Rice in Winston-Salem since 1987.

Dan is an active member of Mt. Tabor Methodist Church and his fraternity, Delta Upsilon. He enjoys domestic bliss with his lovely wife, Donna; son, Daniel, Jr. and daughter, "Lexi."



# 1990 INDUCTEE



## EUGENE "Gene" WERTS

Category: Player

School(s): Atkins High School

Eugene THOMAS "GENE" WERTS was a silky-smooth, 6-6 center for Atkins High School who was the team's rebound ace, an excellent ball handler and a sharpshooter from any angle. "Wheels," as he was affectionately called by his teammates, lettered in basketball, baseball and football. This highly acclaimed slugging first baseman gradually found that his forte was basketball during his sophomore year when Coach George Green took the reins of the basketball team.

Werts was named to the All-City/County, All-District, All-Conference and All-State Negro AAA (NCNHAA) basketball teams in 1955, 1956 and 1957. "Wheels" was unstoppable in 1957 as the Atkins Camels posted a 19-1 season, while capturing the Class AAA State High School Tournament.

Werts was courted by colleges near and far but Coach Green had an influence on "Wheels" choosing the Tennessee A&I Tigers who were perennial NAIA Champions and who were coached by the "Master," John McClendon. "Johnny Mac" had coached Green at North Carolina (Central) College in Durham, and Green knew what coach "Mac" could do with a young 6-6 "horse!"

Werts joined the National Champion Tigers in 1958 and alternated between power forward and center. He was one of three freshman who made the varsity squad. During Werts' career the Tigers won two consecutive Georgia Invitational Tournaments, starred as the NAIA All Stars upset NCAA Champion Ohio State featuring Jerry Lucas, in the opening round of the 1960 U.S. Olympic trials.

Werts was in fast company at Tennessee "State." His teammates read like a Who's Who with the likes of Mert Miweather, Mel Davis, John Baynhill, Dick (Skull) Barnett, "Big Ben" Warley, Jim Satterwhite and home-boy, Willie "Weed" Porter.

After making several All-NAIA teams and being selected to the United Press International (UPI) small College All-American team, Werts considered giving the Professional ranks a shot after his junior year. Due to some respiratory concerns and a quirk in the conference "hardship rule" he opted to secure his degree in Physical Education Health and Recreation and to pursue his dream to coach.

Werts served in the U.S. Army from 1963-65 as a Top Secret Documents Specialist.

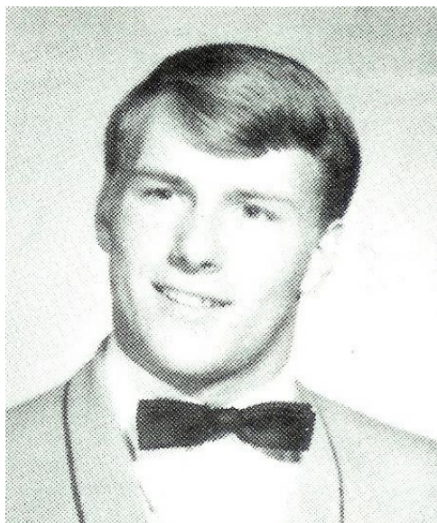
He has served as a Coach in the Gary Indiana Public Schools, Assistant Coach at Kentucky State University and Graduate Assistant at Tennessee State University.

After participating in many coaching clinics and seminars across the nation and studying on the Graduate level at The University of Groningen, Groningen, Netherlands - "Gene" has become a tenured Assistant Professor of Physical Education and Head Basketball Coach and coordinator of Athletics at the University of the Virgin Islands-St. Thomas.





# 1990 INDUCTEE



## BRUCE V. SHELTON

Category: Player

School(s): Parkland High School

BRUCE V SHELTON attended Parkland Senior High School from 1966-1969. Bruce enjoyed a very successful varsity career in baseball and basketball. But football was the sport in which he most excelled, and for which he is best remembered. As the starting quarterback, he lettered during his junior and senior years. As a junior, Bruce led Parkland to a 9-1 record, Parkland's best record ever in football. Although 20 years have passed since Shelton's football career at Parkland, he still holds six (6) school records: (1) Most TD passes-season - 18; (2) Most TD passes-career - 25; (3) Most yards passing-season - 1,817; (4) Most pass completions-game - 17; (5) Most passes completed-season - 87; (6) Most passes attempted-game - 24.

For the accomplishment of his junior season, Bruce was named All-City/County, and honorable mention All-Conference.

Shelton was selected to play in the Annual North-South All-Star Game his senior year. As the starting quarterback for the North squad, he passed for two (2) touchdowns and led the North to a 26-14 victory.

As a senior, Shelton received the Winston-Salem Lions Club's "Top Athlete" trophy at Parkland. The Winston-Salem Sportsmen Club named him the "Most Outstanding Athlete" at their Annual Banquet of Champions.

Homer Thompson, long-time Athletic Director and Head football coach at Parkland was quoted in The Winston-Salem Journal, saying "Shelton is the best quarterback I've ever coached." Based on Thompson's 30-plus years in high school athletics, that is a glowing tribute to Bruce's abilities.

In addition to being an outstanding athlete, Shelton excelled in academics and demonstrated leadership in every aspect of life. He served as President of the sophomore and Junior classes. Bruce was elected President of the Parkland student body. In fact, he was elected President of the student body at every school he attended in the system. As a senior, Bruce was also active and a leader in the Key Club, Drama club and the Monogram Club. He was elected to Parkland's "Who's Who" for the class of 1969.

Bruce was a nominee for a Morehead Scholarship and a West Point appointment, but chose to accept a football scholarship at Appalachian State University.

At ASU, Bruce continued to excel in scholastic, athletic and civic endeavors. He was named the "Most Valuable Freshman" in the football program. He was instrumental in organizing ASU's first Social Fraternity, and was elected the President of the fraternity.

While attending ASU, Bruce co-founded a furniture company, formed Hideaways, Inc., a retail division to market the furniture line and established Properties Services, Inc., a real estate development company.

Bruce was no saint and would have been the last to apply for the position. He was a cocky quarterback and a fierce competitor - sometimes to a fault. However, he has met

very basic requirements for sainthood as he died on January 26, 1987, at age 35, of a massive heart attack.

In Shelton's memory, friends and classmates have established the BRUCE V SHELTON Scholarship to provide an annual grant for the top student-athlete in the Winston-Salem/ Forsyth County School System as chosen by a designated selection committee.



# 1990 INDUCTEE



## BOBBY "Cheeky" COX

Category: Coach

School(s): R.J. Reynolds High School

Bobby LEON "CHEEK Y" COX was a three-sport star in baseball, football and basketball at John W. Hanes High School. He was named All-Conference in each sport for the 1959-60 seasons. The football squad was defeated in the State semi-finals; the basketball team was Conference Champion and the baseball team was crowned The Forsyth County tournament champion. Cox was named "Most Valuable Player" of the tournament. Cox served as team captain of all three sports his senior (1960) year.

"Cheeky" found his ultimate glory on the diamond in the fast 2-A conference by being awarded a four-year scholarship to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He became a tobacco "chawing" pitcher and some-times catcher on the UNC freshman team (1960-61). The "Fox," as he has been affectionately called, was undefeated as a pitcher on the '64 team while UNC captured the 1964 ACC Championship.

Upon graduation, Cox came to R. J. Reynolds High School as a baseball assistant coach. The following year (1966) he was named Head Coach, inherited a fungo bat from "the master," Jack Musten, and became the "fox to trap" until he left R. J. Reynolds in 1981 to assist the baseball staff at Wake Forest University.

While coaching at R.J.R. Cox produced a record 01'223 wins and 71 losses. His teams went to Conference Play-offs 13 of 15 seasons. He won eleven (11) District 4-A titles. He was named Central4,A (District 8) Coach-Of-The-Year five times (1970, 1973, 1976, 1977, 1979).

Cox has been very proud of the many players he coached who have played on college and professional teams. most notably Tommy Gregg presently with the Atlanta Braves.

As an Assistant Coach at Wake Forest (1982-87) Cox was pitching coach and Director of recruiting. A star recruit Eric Hanson, is presently a starting pitcher for the Seattle Mariners.

Bobby Cox is the exception to Leo Durocher's rule: "Nice guys finish Last" His players, rivals, friends and associates will readily attest that Bobby is respected, idolized and the perennial nice guy who always finishes First!

