

1996 INDUCTEE



EDWARD DENARD BYERS

Category: Player

School(s): Parkland High School

Edward Denard Byers was known by many names at Parkland High School. Coaches Thompson, Buie, Muse, McDonald and Brayboy called him "Ed." The ladies called him "Poochie," the guys called him "The Horse" and "Mr. Ed." It is not printable what his opponents in the Western 4A District called him.

This 6'0", 198 pound "Man-o-War" carried the Mustangs on his back during 1982 and 1983 and still had enough savvy to play linebacker when his lunch boosted him to 205 lbs! Everybody at Parkland knew that Ed could pick 'em up and lay 'em down when he donned the red, white and blue. He had played seven (7) years with the Boys' Club and put in a thousand hours on the concrete.

"Big Ed's" senior year was something to behold-a work of art! By his seventh game, he had grabbed 1,071 yards. His last game against West Forsyth totaled 236 yards and ran his season's tally up to 1,520. When the dust cleared at the State 4A Semi-Finals Playoff-where Parkland "bit the dust," Ed had just over 1,800 yards in the record books. Besides the yardage record, Ed was recognized and acclaimed as follows after the 1983 Championship season: All-City/County, All-Western 4A Conference, All-Northwest, All-State, Forsyth County Player-of-the-Year, selected to East-West All-Star Team (Running Back), recipient of the Thorn McAnn Player-of-the-Year Award.

Coach Bill Hayes had a jewel in Norris Thomas at Wake Forest and was able to grab a gold mine in "Big Horse-Ed, Poochie" Byers at Winston-Salem State University. At WSSU, Ed helped set the tone for many championships to follow after his days with the Rams.

Ed Byers has given something back to the community. He has been remembered by coaching the Mt. Tabor Falcons in the Pop Warner League-Record: 37-13.

Today Ed is a machine operator at Douglas Battery Company and he is still going... going... going! When not energizing, Ed likes to relax with his lovely wife, Roslyn and his team of children - Antwyan, Shelton, Juan, Monte and Monterio.



1996 INDUCTEE



ALBERT "T-Ball" CONNER

Category: Player

School(s): Atkins High School

Albert Connor was a Point Guard/Forward before Magic Johnson could shoot his pacifier straight! This ball-handler, "jump-shot artist" came to Coach George Green during an em when the Atkins Camels seemed to be a little thin compared to previous Maroon and Gold "big 5's".

"T-Ball" matured around 1961 and became a shooting legend in gyms and on play-grounds throughout Forsyth County. He teamed with guard Ray Joyner and center/forward "Ed" Hallums to help the Camels advance to the 1962NCNHSAA Class 4-A Championship Game at North Carolina A & T College in Greensboro.

Some of his greatest duals were against the little 5' 10" dynamo at Columbia Heights High School, John Terry, and the sleek smooth future pro from Greensboro Dudley, Louis (Lou) Hudson. "T-Ball" asked for no slack and didn't grant any during the 1961 and 1962 seasons. He was selected team captain for those years and was chosen as the Winston-Salem Sports-men Club's All-Star Team for the 1961-1962 season.

In 1962, the "shooter" was named All-City/County, All-Western District, and All-State. He also was selected All-Tournament at the NCNHSAA (4A) Championship games at N.C. A & T College. "T-Ball" was one of a select few to earn an athletic scholarship in basketball upon his graduation. He matriculated at North Carolina College (North Carolina Central University). North Carolina College won a CIAA Basketball Championship during his stay on the hardwood. In 1966, "T-Ball's" magic earned him the Most Valuable Player (MVP) Award at the college.

After graduation, this high-flying Eagle was subsequently inducted into the North Carolina Central University's Athletic Hall of Fame. He recently was appointed to serve on the Hall of Fame Selection Committee.

Presently, Albert Connor works locally with Stroh's Brewery. When not worshipping at Mt. Zion Baptist Church and trying to find his golfballs at local courses, you probably can catch "T-Ball" home with his lovely wife Veronica and three future point guard/forward boys!

1996 INDUCTEE



CHARLES "Jerry" HUNEYCUTT

Category: Player

School(s): Gray High School

Charles J. Huneycutt came to Gray High School in 1960 by way of Charlotte and Marion where he had played in junior high and high school respectively. Coach Homer Thompson of Gray High was called late in July to be informed that the newly assigned minister of his church, Central Terrace Methodist, had a son who was known as a pretty good "jack-rabbit" tailback. It is said that Coach Thompson dropped his Sunday School books, got in touch with Rev. Jerome Huneycutt and talked three hours about Sunday School classes and football-not necessarily in that order!

Reverend Huneycutt and Thompson were equally concerned that Jerry's reputation as a star could cause jealousy and dissension on a senior-heavy team. Before Jerry went to Gray, Reverend Huneycutt talked with his boy... told him he might have to make some concessions until he was accepted by the team. Jerry resolved to watch who he dated and to be aggressive only on the football field and in the classroom. With that understanding, Coach relegated Jerry and another transfer, Dave Haring, to the "scrub" or third team.

In less than a week, it was evident to the coaching staff and players that Jerry and Haring belonged with the first stringers. Jerry Huneycutt had it all! He even ate liver for breakfast to strengthen himself for the game. He became the most spectacular of Gray's many talented players.

Huneycutt was the ideal runner for Gray's winged-T offense. He was the power runner off-tackle and the speed demon around end. Until he arrived, Gray had nobody who could pull multiple duty. He became the Runner, his muscular legs digging through the tangle of the line, carrying his 170 pounds and the weight of two or three tacklers... the Blocker, knifing around end and helping make the way safe for swift-sweeping Dave Kelley... the Safetyman, bulldog-ging a bigger back-to-earth at a minimum sacrifice of yardage, or returning a punt or intercepting a pass. Not only was this new kid in town accepted by his classmates and teammates, he proved to be the "straw that stirred the drink" for Gray's 1960 Championship season!

Jerry Huneycutt's unique and remarkable year at Gray earned him the highest of recognition that included: All-City, All-Star (District 5), Back-of-the-Year (District 5), All-State, Shrine Bowl Selection (West Ail-Stars), All-America selection by Wigman Wiseman, sponsored by Sporting News. Huneycutt matriculated at Duke University, played football, made the Honor Society, graduated with honors and an Air Force Commission in 1965.

On November 10, 1967, Major Charles J. Huneycutt, USAF, was shot down over North Vietnam while flying an F4C on a night operational mission. Major Huneycutt is buried in Arlington National Cemetery. He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Alberta Huneycutt of Morehead City, NC and four sisters and their families.



1996 INDUCTEE



ROSCOE PONCEY SR.

Category: Player

School(s): Atkins High School

Roscoe O. Pouncey, Sr. glided into Atkins High School in 1959 and became one of three freshmen to make the eventual state championship squad coached by hard-driving Ben Warren. Pouncey was rough, tough, mean and hostile! At 205 pounds-soaking wet-he played tackle and learned from the man in front of him- a lanky, vicious dude named Carl Eller!

At the end of an 8-0 season, Eller was injured prior to the Western District Championship Game. No problem. Pouncey was ready. He got "down and dirty" while Atkins breezed to the State Championship game against Durham Hillside. Pouncey earned the right to start in the Championship game and from then on he was "the man." It is said that the 1959 Atkins squad may have been the best team ever. History dictates that certainly it had the biggest linemen on this side of Winston-Salem State. The squad included Eller, J. B. Sharp, Donald Thomas, Happy Hairston and Hessie Smith-all WS/FC High School Hall of Famers or Nomi-nees!

As Roscoe's skills improved in subsequent years, he was also recognized for his leadership and "take charge" qualities. He was appointed Captain of the team for the 1961-62 years while being selected to the All-City/County, All Conference and All-State teams. He was selected to play in the Shrine Bowl in 1962.

Roscoe was the recipient of a four-year athletic scholarship to North Carolina College at Durham (North Carolina Central University). As a freshman at North Carolina College, he got prime-time action on their 1963 CIAA Championship team.

After 27 years in law enforcement, Roscoe retired from the Winston-Salem Police Department with the rank of Captain. When not traveling and being a "sports nut," Captain Pouncey finds time to pamper his children, Roscoe, Jr., Shenita and grandson, Dominique.



1996 INDUCTEE



J. "Don" KING

Category: Player

School(s): Mineral Springs High School

J. "Don" King has told many friends, teammates, sports enthusiasts and business associates that "it's not the name but the game!" Consequently, his "J" got lost at Mineral Springs High School and Coach Gray Cartwright only looked for a "C" and an "F" as in Center! Forward. Coach Cartwright found his "C" and an "F" in Don King and forgot about the almighty "J" because it wasn't invented at that time anyway (J-as in "Jumper").

After four bruising years in the paint, Don had left records and a legacy unmatched by any of the school's previous star athletes. Big Don's scroll reads as follows:

Mineral Springs High School - Basketball:

All-County, 1956 & 1957; All-District 1956 & 1957; All-Conference, (Class AA), 1956 & 1957; All-Northwest, 1957; Most Valuable Player (MVP) Mineral Springs & Forsyth County, 1957; Player of the Year (Forsyth County), 1957; All-State, 1957; Selected to East-West All-Star Team; Career Points: 1,006.

Appalachian State University:

All Conference, 1958- 1961; All-District 26 (N.C., S.c., VA), 1959- 1961; Appalachian State Career Scoring Leader (1,790 points). 1961: Selected to Appalachian State University's Athletic Hall of Fame.

Other:

Coached at Anson County (6 years) - 3 Conference Championships; I District Championship; State AA Runners-up, 1965; Record: 110-32.

North Wilkes High School 1968- 1971; Conference Champions, 1971; District AA Runners-up, 1969-1971; Record: 67-45.

Coach Bob Light at Appalachian State once said that, "Don King is the best basketball player I have coached in my 17 years at Appalachian." Pretty good for a guy who lost his "J"!

Don is presently located in Raleigh, somewhere between his Horace Mann Insurance Office and the golf course.

His affectionate wife, Jane, and son help him keep correct scores.



1996 INDUCTEE



JAY B. SHARP

Category: Player

School(s): Atkins High School

Jay Sharp was the only sophomore to break into the powerful all-star line up of the 1957 Atkins High Camels. Coach Ben Warren predicted that J. B. would be the bruiser he needed at fullback to protect and complement all-stars in the backfield such as John Lee Thomas, Shedrick Adams, Willie Ashford and Nevon James.

Coach Warren "hit the nail on the head" as J. B. made his teammates better players as they marched to lopsided victories in 1957-1959. J. B., in many instances, overshadowed such teammates as Carl Eller, "Twit" Alexander, Hessie Smith, Robert "Crip" Evans, "Big Daddy" Moorman, "Happy" Hairston, "Creep" Crosby, John Smith, "Mo" Lindsey, Bruce Gaither, Waddell Rice and "Horse" Thomas. J. B. became Captain of this relentless squad in 1958 and also was selected captain of the baseball team in the spring. He was named to the All-City Team, All-Conference and All-State in 1958 and 1959 in both sports.

By 1959, Atkins High was the most feared aggregation on any gridiron in North Carolina. Sharp and Coach Warren led their NCNHSAA District 3A Western Conference Champions into Bowman Gray Stadium to engage the great Durham Hillside squad for the State AAA Championship. After the first play in the Championship game, it was all over! Sharp took a handoff and rambled to the Hillside 30 yard line. The Camels gained on another run and passed before sending Mr. Sharp through the middle for the score. When the dust cleared, J. B. and Crip, along with "Happy" Hairston, Hessie and "Horse" had put a 50-0 "clinic" on Durham. J. B. was selected to the Shrine Youth Bowl where he was named Captain and selected Most Valuable Player.

The college scouts came to Atkins in droves after their Championship season. North Carolina College, Tennessee State, North Carolina A & T, Johnson C. Smith and others grabbed some of the stars but the "cream of the crop" was captured by the University of Minnesota. J. B. and Carl Eller hitched their wagons together and helped put the Minnesota Gophers on the map. It is recorded that the Gophers had eleven former fullbacks on the team when J. B. arrived but quickly cut the surplus to two behind #36 (Sharp).

J. B.'s career at Minnesota was brilliant but rather brief. Due to injuries after his sophomore year, he struggled. He also was victimized by a quirk in his military draft status. A routine check with his draft board revealed that his exemption documents from the University was not verified. Needless to say, J. B. was inducted and served honorably in the Army. J. B. has since finished his education and earned a Master's Degree from Case Western University (1974) in Social Administration. The fullback is semiretired and enjoys a less stressful life in Columbus, Ohio.



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RICHARD GARFIELD CHAPPLE

Category: Player

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

Richard Garfield Started his athletic career around the playgrounds of Ardmore School and American Legion teams playing no pun intended-"short" stop! Appropriately, he picked up the nickname, T-e-e-n-y, T-i-n-n-i-e; whatever! The fact remains: this was a small, tiny, little "knee-length," Mugsy Bogues, "Pee-Wee" Reese-type of athlete who had heart, soul,

skills, "guts," courage and awareness, to play with any of them. And he did!

Naturally, when "Teeny" tiptoed into R. J. Reynolds High as a freshman to play football, basketball and baseball, he was assigned to play "scat"back, point guard and shortstop, respectively. Teeny probably had more going for him than his opponents realized. First of all, you couldn't see him behind his favorite lineman, Doug Crater. According to Mary Garber, the legendary sportswriter, on a good day with a good-size rock in each hand, Teeny weighed 135 pounds and could almost get away with playing with the Reynolds' midget team!

Teeny's playing career on the gridiron was typified by a game in his Junior year against the Greensboro Whorries where he scored two touchdowns and passed for another. Spectators at the game swear that since Teeny couldn't see his receiver, he just closed his eyes and let it go! Oh well, Teeny was selected City Player-of-the-Year for his day's work.

Along the way, Coaches Tom Cask (Gray), John Tandy (Reynolds) and Wilburn Clary (Children's Home) acknowledged that Richard Chapple was a "Bread and Butter" player whenever he suited up to play. Coach Tandy laughed when he remembered the championship game against Durham. He was saving the game ball for Teeny. A little kid came up and

asked to just feel the ball. Tandy told him not to drop it while he admired it. The kid obeyed and complied. Tandy told his friends, "just like Teeny, and about the same size too"!

Teeny's accomplishments include: All-City Football, 1951 and 1952; All-City Basketball, 1952 and 1953; All-Conference Honorable Mention (Football), 1951 and 1952; Outstanding

Tailback and Safety on R. J. Reynolds 1952 State 3A Championship Team (RJR-12, Durham-g); selected to Piedmont Bowl All-Star Team, 1952

As a student, Teeny was elected President of the Student Government Association, Member of the Hi-Y Club and the National Honor Society. Teeny Chapple left R. J. Reynolds High

and went to Pfeiffer Junior College and immediately was selected as Captain of the basketball team. "Success" became his nickname as he graduated from Pfeiffer with a degree in Business Accounting. Later, the military called him to "stand tall". With Army duty behind him, Teeny came home and worked with corporate enterprises that included Fairchild Industries, L. A. Reynolds and the Peanut Shack, Inc. He has also realized much success as Manager of Accent Personnel Agency.

Civically, Richard Chapple is a recognized giant among the state and local Jaycees, March of Dimes and the Piedmont Bowl. He has chaired each organization and helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for their charitable causes. He is also involved with the Sertoma Club which sponsors the Pop Warner League. This 12th child of 12 children knows what it means to hustle, scramble, scratch and utilize your talents for the highest order of service. Only his loyal wife and companion, Hazel, and his two children know how the great

Number 38, out on Route 7, spells his nickname!



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NORRIS L. THOMAS

Category: Player

School(s): Atkins High School

Norris Thomas must be very aware and alert as he negotiates one-way streets these days. Since he bounced into Atkins High in 1968 as an Offensive Tackle, he kissed one-way good bye!

His multitude of coaches-David Lash, George Green, Elijah Stewart, "Bobby" Moore, James Chambers, Winston Moore, B. Turner and "Big Joe" Williams-all agreed that this 6' 1", 195pound dynamo belonged in Middle Linebacker, Center and Offensive Guard.

The Center would often let "Blimp" Russell do the job while the guard duty had the responsibility of protecting such all-stars as Barry McNeil (QB), Larry Hatton (HB), James Smith (FB), and Willis Miller (WR). The Linebacker teamed with James White, Kenneth Bonham, Worth McCloud, Sylvester Johnson and other destructive Camels to form one of the most feared "Steel Curtains" in the state!

Norris stabilized the Atkins' defense by 1969 and led the team to a Central4A Championship Runners-up position. Norris, by 1971, had been a middle linebacker for three years and was getting more versatile, faster and quicker. Coaches Stewart and Chambers, along with his "home boy," Willis Miller, encouraged him to come out for track to stay in shape and to maintain his speed. It is recorded that at a Forsyth County Meet, Norris substituted for an injured Larry Hatten in the mile relay, took the leadoff leg and let Robert Redd, Jimmy Caldwell and anchorman Miller literally trot the Finish Line as they set a county record! How is that for versatility?

During Norris' senior year, he scored two touchdowns by interceptions and always seemed to be standing in or near the end zone when Hatten, Smith or other speedsters scored. Coach Cal Stoll of Wake Forest had his eyes on Hatten but films showed that Norris Thomas more than not, always led him to pay dirt. Coach Stoll saw that Norris, by now known as "the Hook" had impressive credentials: Captain, Football, 1970 and 1971; All-City, 1970 and 1971; All-County, 1970 and 1971; Atkins High MVP, Football, 1970; All-Conference (Central4A), 1970 and 1971; Bock-Stroud Award, City's Top Lineman, 1971; Coca-Cola Golden Helmet Award, 1971; Winston-Salem Sportsmen Club's E. E. Hill Award Top Athlete, 1971; selected to East-West All-Star Football Team (starter), 1971.

Coach Stoll said The Hook was vicious and had superior quickness. With those strokes, Norris became the first Atkins High football player to receive a four year "ride" at Wake Forest University. He joined Willie "Super-Sub" Griffin, who was already shooting the pill for the varsity basketball team.

After his years with the Demon Deacons, Hook took his sociology and history skills to the world of Corporate enterprise. He is presently employed by Silcon Corporation as a Manager. Norris is a professed bachelor and enjoys all of the available amenities

