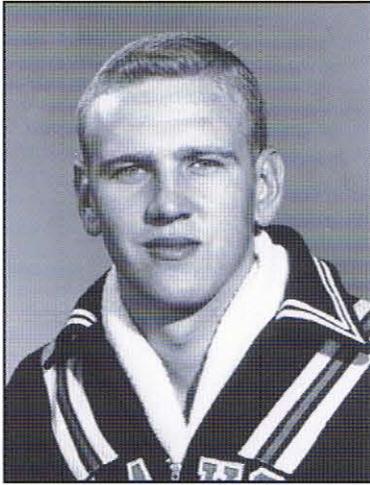


Stillwater Pioneer Athlete Memorial



EDDIE BUNCH

February 3, 1940 - May 26, 2000

Stillwater High School Class of 1958

7th Annual Memorial Induction Ceremony

October 12, 2002

Edgar "Eddie" Earl Bunch - A True Sportsman

Eddie, as we know him, was born in Stillwater, Oklahoma on February 3, 1940 to Geraldine Bunch and left us on May 26, 2000. However, his memory and influence lives on through his family, friends, and all who he came in contact with through his high school coaching days. Eddie graduated from Stillwater High School in 1958 and was more than just an outstanding basketball player for the Pioneers. As a senior, he was recognized for his abilities on the court as a top scorer in the state tournament, voted to the All Tournament Team, and voted Most Valuable Player in the annual Oil Bowl game (Texas and Oklahoma All Stars). Another great recognition Eddie earned his senior year was being chosen to the Oklahoma "All State Basketball Team", the highest award a high school athlete could receive from Oklahoma. However, his most prestigious achievement was being elected to represent Oklahoma as a High School All American.

Eddie was a tough competitor and that toughness, along with his natural abilities, earned him a chance to play major college basketball for Oklahoma State University under the legendary "Mr. Iba". He had a great deal of respect for Mr. Iba and that was one of the factors which helped him decide to go into coaching after he graduated from OSU. While at OSU Eddie lettered 3 years and has a career scoring average of 11.4. That was considered very respectful back then when often a college team could win with scoring not much more than 50 points a game. His free shot percentage at OSU still stands today as third best in school history at 85%.

Eddie loved the game of basketball so much he wanted to pass his knowledge of it on to others. That gave him an extended career in the sport as he coached at the high school level for many years. After graduating from OSU he coached at the Oklahoma schools of Perry, Atoka, and Perkins before moving to Busby, Montana to do the same. He came back to Oklahoma before retiring in 1984 but never lost his love for sports.

Eddie was a true sportsman which was evidenced by his love for hunting and fishing. He would walk miles with his favorite double barrel 16 gauge shot gun in the fields around Stillwater hunting with his buddies. He could knock down a bird on the fly at 50 yards and just smile at you. When he wasn't hunting birds he was hunting deer in Osage County around the Pawhuska area.

Eddie Bunch was a loyal friend and made the most of his time when with his friends. On occasion he would like to "stir the pot" to create some excitement if nothing else was "going on". He was a good friend and a "True Sportsman". We all miss his presence.

Presenter

Don Linsenmeyer

Stillwater High School, Class of 1959