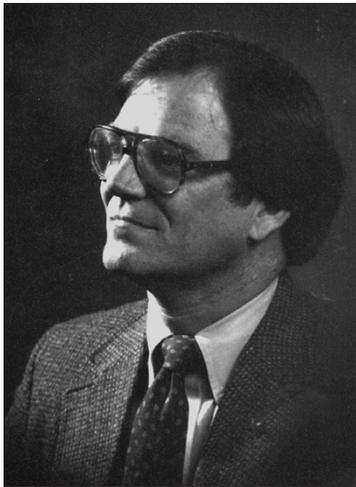


Stillwater Pioneer Athlete Memorial



RICHARD HUME

October 15, 1948 - March 2, 2001

Stillwater High School Class of 1966

12th Annual Memorial Induction Ceremony

September 29, 2007

Richard was not the biggest man at Stillwater High School in stature, but he very well may have been the biggest man as a person, student, athlete and friend. He very quietly and humbly spent his high school career helping and being a good friend to everyone that was around him. Somewhat sadly, because Richard was so humble, a lot of people didn't realize what a special person he was.

Although he was born in Ponca City and always seemed to have close friends there, once he moved to Stillwater he became a Stillwater Pioneer. He was a leader on the wrestling team his whole career. One of the greatest assets that a wrestling team can have is for the first wrestler out to "give his all!". Richard was that asset, and would then spend the rest of the time encouraging the rest of his teammates. That is Pioneer Pride.

Richard was a very gifted athlete. He loved to shoot baskets with the basketball team and would just grin as he would beat them in a game of Horse. On the baseball/softball field he was a great shortstop. He had a major league arm and more than one first baseman asked him to not throw so hard. On the golf course he made the game look a lot easier than it was. We will never know how far Richard might have excelled in sports because he was always limited by a leg that was crushed by a horse falling on him when he was young. But Richard never mentioned it and never used his leg as an excuse.

Richard was also a very gifted person. He had a great singing voice and sang in a band during his college years. He spent several years coaching little league wrestlers - his way of instilling Pioneer Pride in the next generation. His little leaguer's looked up to him and loved him, but his gifts were not limited to just athletics.

He had a very unique ability to see other people's needs, if a kind word was needed he gave it, if a suggestion on the next step in a project or business venture was needed, he had it. When Don Short mentioned that he needed to come up with a logo for his carpet company, Richard suggested "We love the floors you walk on". Forty years later that is still their logo.

After graduating from Stillwater High School in 1966, Richard graduated from OSU and then began his banking career with Stillwater National Bank. He then moved to Texas to work for a large bank holding company. While there he spent several years working directly with Ed McMahan of the Tonight Show doing advertisements for his banks. During this same time period, his company was trying to develop a way to analyze the profitability of their loans. Richard took an Apple computer home, learned how to use it (this was before Windows) and then wrote a program that the banks used.

When you mention Richard to any of his high school classmates, even after forty years, most will mention one of the sports that he did so well. Some will remember his smile, his laugh or his one liners. But, all will end with "What a super guy".

Presenter
Clint Cooke
Stillwater High School Class of 1966