



Stillwater Pioneer Athlete Memorial



ROBERT BRUCE IRWIN

December 12, 1940 - December 15, 2009
Stillwater High School Class of 1959

16th Annual Memorial Induction Ceremony
September 24, 2011

Bruce Irwin was born December 12, 1940 to Nancy and Robert Ray Irwin, who was himself a member of the Stillwater Pioneer track team. Bruce passed away on December 15, 2009 just a few days after his 69th birthday.

Bruce excelled at everything he tried as evidenced by his many honors and activities. As a Pioneer senior, Bruce was a member of Who's Who, President of the National Honor Society, member of the State Honor Society, and a Boy Rotarian. He was a member of the Science Club, Mu Alpha Theta, the S Club, Pioneer Year Book Staff and was chosen to attend Boys' State. In addition, he was the Junior Class President and a Student Council representative.

His athletic contributions included 4 years on the track team and starting center on the 1959 State Championship Basketball team. Bruce also played on the 1958 basketball team that played in the State Championship finals losing by only one point. The 1959 State Championship team went undefeated their last 20 games while playing without Jim Barnes (SPAM 2005 Inductee). The 1960 team, playing with Jim Barnes, also won the State Championship giving Stillwater High School it's only State Basketball High School Championships (1959 & 1960).

After graduation, Bruce went on to Oklahoma State University and continued to serve in leadership roles. He was President of Student Government and two-time president of his fraternity (Phi Delta Theta). It was at OSU that he met Doris Main from Cherokee, OK, and they were married June 6, 1964. They honeymooned en route to Baton Rouge, LA, where Bruce worked for 33 years for Exxon and retired in 1997 as National Sales Manager for the chemical division. After Bruce's retirement from Exxon he became Missions Pastor for Cypress Bible Church in Houston, TX. He later moved to Little Rock, Arkansas to work with his son running URETEK I.C.R. Mid South Division, which his son continues to run today.

Bruce is survived by his son Kevin and daughter Kristen. He is also survived by 2 sisters, Nancy Crenshaw (Stillwater High School class of 1964) who is married to Jerry Crenshaw Stillwater High School class of 1959 and Janet Fultz (Stillwater High School class of 1974). Seven grandchildren and ten nieces and nephews. Bruce had 2 brothers that are also deceased, David (Class of 1960) and Tom (Class of 1969).

Bruce impacted many people. His strong Christian upbringing has affected many family members in that his brother David, his son-in-law Patrick and his brother-in-law Jerry are all pastors. In addition, Tom's wife Marcy is currently in the seminary.

Bruce brings to SPAM the ideals of service and leadership that only a few have ever achieved.

Presenter
Gary Corser
Stillwater High School Class of 1959