



Stillwater Pioneer Athlete Memorial



WILLIS H. MACKEY

November 2, 1937 - December 12, 2007

Distinguished Service Award

13th Annual Memorial Induction Ceremony

October 4, 2008

Stillwater High School is fortunate to have had the dedication, service, and true "Pioneer" spirit of Willis Mackey. For 14 years before his retirement in 1997, he served us as teacher, coach, administrator, and athletic director.

Born in Savanna, Oklahoma, Willis loved sports, and played on the basketball and football teams at the high school. With an undergraduate degree from Southeastern in Durant in hand, he went on to teach and coach at Wilson high School, then Winnewood High School. While pursuing his dreams in Winnewood, he also met LaRuth Robberson and they married June 5, 1964. Willis and LaRuth had two sons, Blake and Brent, and they have three grandchildren.

Prior to moving to Stillwater in 1983, Willis had earned an advanced degree in administration from Oklahoma University and had been basketball coach and math teacher at Lindsey High School for six years. His first position in Stillwater was at the Junior High teaching math and coaching basketball, but in 1984 he began his tenure at SHS. For four years he taught math, served as assistant boys basketball coach and head boys golf coach. He was named Oklahoma Coaches Association State Golf Coach of the year in 1987. From 1988 until his retirement in 1997, Mr. Mackey served as assistant principal at SHS, with the duties of athletic director being added in 1991. After his retirement in 1997, he worked part-time for the OCA as Hall of Fame coordinator until 2007.

Willis Mackey had been inducted into the OCA Hall of Fame in 1990, the Oklahoma Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame and the National School Athletic Coaches Association in 2002.

*Presenter
Mike Simpson
Stillwater High School Class of 1986*