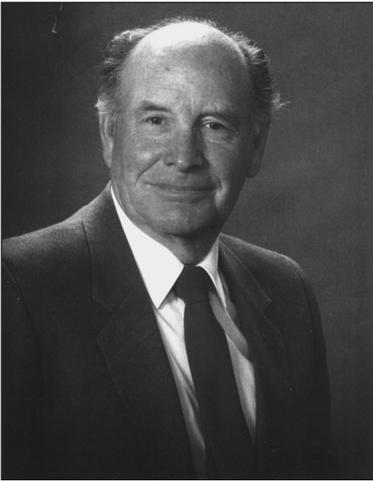




## ***Stillwater Pioneer Athlete Memorial***

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**C. D. MIHURA**

**Distinguished Service Award**

**16th Annual Memorial Induction Ceremony**

**September 24, 2011**

C.D. Mihura was reared in Ripley, Oklahoma and graduated from Ripley High School in 1942. He was drafted into military service in Payne County, Oklahoma in 1943. Upon the completion of basic training, he was assigned to the Army Specialized Training Program at DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois where he attended classes for two semesters before being ordered to duty with the 381st Infantry Regiment of the 96th "Deadeye" Division. He served in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater participating in the Leyte and Ryukyus campaigns. He was awarded the Silver Star for heroism when he dashed forward under enemy fire to rescue a wounded soldier on Leyte.

After the Leyte Campaign closed, he began training for the Okinawa invasion. He was wounded on D-Day on Okinawa by friendly aircraft fire, but returned to action the next morning only to be wounded a second time when a Japanese rifle bullet entered his left leg. Besides receiving the Silver Star, C. D. was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, The Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart for wounds received in action, the Good Conduct Medal, the American Campaign Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with Bronze Arrowhead and 2 Bronze Service Stars and the WWII Victory Medal. His regiment was awarded the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation for service in the war against Japan.

After being honorably discharged from the service and returning home, C. D. worked for two years before returning to college. He received his BS degree in Education from Oklahoma A&M College in 1949. He then served Dewey High School as their basketball and baseball coach for one year, was the Principal at Ripley High School for two years, worked for Magnolia Petroleum for one year and then was at Red Rock High School for one year. He then returned to A&M and received his Masters in Education Administration.

In 1954, C. D. joined the Stillwater Public School System as a junior high teacher, junior high basketball coach and also a Stillwater High School assistant football coach. After one semester, he moved to the high school to teach geometry and physics but continued to coach Junior High basketball and junior high football. When the high school moved to its present location in 1960, he was assigned to be an assistant in football and wrestling. C. D. had two stints as SHS baseball coach, while still being the offensive coordinator in football. In 1970, he was made the Principal at Will Rogers Elementary School, retiring from education in 1982.

After retirement from the public schools, he built a general store and an auction which he ran with his wife, Jean, for 15 years. When he tired of the store and auction, he purchased a 200 acre farm on the Cimarron River, which he still operates.

In 1988, C. D. became a Director of Central Rural Electric Cooperative and he is still on the board today. For 16 years, he served as a Director on the KAMO Generation and Transmission Board, which is headquartered in Vinita, Oklahoma. He has served as president on both boards.

C. D. has never believed that you should just quit, but he admits that it's about time he should slow down.

Presenters  
Mark Grimsley & Kent Grant  
Stillwater High School Class of 1962 & 1966