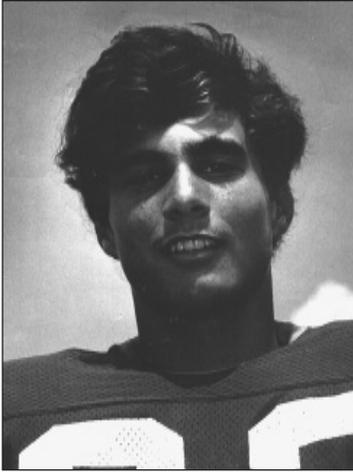




Stillwater Pioneer Athlete Memorial



GARY MARK SNIDER

March 7, 1956 - June 18, 2007

Stillwater High School Class of 1974

14th Annual Memorial Induction Ceremony

October 10, 2009

Gary Mark Snider was born March 7, 1956, in Stillwater, Oklahoma to Lee and Dorothy Snider. At the age of 51, Gary lost his battle with colon cancer on June 18, 2007. Gary attended school in Bixby and Broken Arrow, and graduated from Stillwater High School in 1974. While in high school he played safety for the Pioneer football team and placed third at state in wrestling. He was also

on the track team and was always remembered for his speed. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from Oklahoma State University where he played defensive back for the Cowboy football team.

Gary married his high school sweetheart, Debbie Domnick, on August 5, 1977, in Stillwater. Together they have three sons, Beau Michael, 28, Zachary Mark, 24, and Lucas Matthew, 18, who were all born in Enid, Oklahoma.

Gary followed in his father's footsteps and began his teaching and coaching career in Enid, Oklahoma in 1979 under the guidance of Harvey Griffin. Gary was the defensive backs coach and in 1983, Enid won the 6A State Championship. In 1991, Gary followed coach Ron Lancaster to Jenks, Oklahoma, where he was the assistant head coach and defensive coordinator. His defense soon rose to the top of 6A football and in 1993 won the State Championship. In 1996, Gary joined ranks with the Union Redskins where he was the defensive backs coach. During the reign at Tulsa Union he added three more state championships to his accomplishments.

Gary loved teaching physical education to his students and working with them on health education, building their strength and developing athletic skills. One of his favorite grades to teach was the first graders and the special education students. He loved coaching and especially loved coaching his own sons. Gary enjoyed creating meaningful relationships with the many athletes and young men he came in contact with over his long and successful career.

During his coaching career, he won five state championships, three state runner-ups, made four semi-final appearances, and won fifteen district championships. He had a winning record of 238-48. Gary had the honor of being the East-West Shrine head coach in 1988 and being an assistant coach for the Oil Bowl in 2004. He received the Coaching Award of Excellence in 1983, 1993, 2002, 2004, and 2005. The 2007 Redskin football season was dedicated to his memory. Gary was a frequent speaker at football clinics, coached football camps for youths, and worked Little and Special Olympics. He co-authored football play books and was a consultant on the football software, "Game Day Stats".

Gary loved his life, his family, friends, and the many boys that passed through his life. He was truly blessed and blessed others who had the opportunity to know him.

Presenters
Beau, Zach & Luke Snider