

JUDGE AL BLANTON

A L BLANTON PLAYED FOOTBALL AND BASEBALL AT WALKER COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

from 1925 to 1927 and was outstanding in both sports. He received a scholarship to play both football and baseball at Birmingham-Southern College where he received the honor of being the captain of the freshman football team. He later became the captain of both the varsity football and baseball teams. He also played basketball and ran track. Upon completion of an outstanding college career, he signed to play professional baseball.

In 1935, he returned to Walker County as the head coach of both the Vikings football and basketball teams. His record in football after two years was 14-3-2, as he then moved on to pursue a career in law. He has the distinction of coaching the first football game ever played under lights in Walker County. He was also instrumental in organizing the Jasper Quarterback Club, wrote the by-laws for this organization, and served as their first ever president. He was then selected to coach the only football team Walker College ever fielded, and they were undefeated. Al was inducted into the Birmingham-Southern Sports Hall-of-Fame, and the initial class of the Walker High School Athletic Hall-of-Fame.



Al graduated from the University of Alabama Law School, was an FBI special agent, Walker County Solicitor, and then elected Circuit Judge in 1956, where he served for the next 20 years.

He served as the president of the Alabama Judges Association, was a lifetime member of the Kiwanis International, and on the Board of Trustees of Carraway Methodist Medical Center.

Al and Veni Weldon Blanton have the following descendants: late son Al, Jr.; grandson, Al, III; and great-grandson, Joshua Blanton.