

2022 INDUCTEE

JESSE GEORGE

JESSE WAS BORN NOVEMBER 4, 1936, JUST SIX MILES NORTH OF THE CURRY COMMUNITY. HE PLAYED HIGH SCHOOL

football and basketball at Curry from 1953-1956. The 1956 basketball team won 3rd place in the state tournament. Travis Hudson was the coach of both sports. Jesse played half-back/linebacker in football and every position in basketball, lettering in both sports.

In the fall of 1956, he enrolled at Walker College. During his freshman year, he played basketball under Coach Tanner. Jesse was elected Student Government President in 1957. He then transferred to Auburn University and graduated in December of 1959. He earned a degree in Vocational/Agriculture with a minor in Physical Education. While at Auburn, he served as President of the FFA and was a member of the Alpha Zeta Fraternity.

Upon graduation, Jesse accepted a teaching position at Beauregard High School located in Lee County. During his time there, he taught Journalism, Typing, and Physical Education along with coaching football, basketball, and baseball. The 1965 basketball team that he coached earned the right to play in the state tournament in the Elite 8.

In 1966, Jesse decided to move back to Walker County. He accepted the Junior High coaching position at Cold Springs located in the south end of Cullman County. He moved to Varsity Head Coach just 2 years later. In 1970, Cold Springs High School began playing football for the first time and Bruce Abbott was hired as football coach. Jesse continued his work as head basketball coach and added assistant football coach. The 1969-1970 basketball team was runner up in the Cullman County Tournament and runner up in the Area Tournament. The next year, Cold Springs clenched the County Tournament and followed it with an Area Championship and then a Regional Championship. They finished their season in the Elite in the State Tournament for 1971. Cold Springs dominated the County tournament for 4 more years securing a 5-year streak of County Championships. They also obtained 2 more Area championships. During this time, Jesse was chosen to coach the 1971 Alabama 2A All Star Game. Every junior high coach to ever serve under Jesse went on to head coaching positions. 6 of his athletes went on to coaching careers as head coaches and 5 of those are in the Cullman County Hall of Fame. One is in the Alabama State Hall of Fame. Cold Springs High School gymnasium is named in his honor and for his legacy.

In 1975, Jesse accepted the position of Principal of the Cold Springs Elementary School. Even though he was still at the top of his coaching career, Jesse stepped down from coaching due to his commitment of not coaching his own 2 sons. During his time as Principal, he earned his Masters Degree from Montevallo. Four years later, he decided to go back to the classroom and accepted a position as the Ag instructor. During this time, he formed a group of young musicians who won the state FFA String Band competition.

Jesse returned in 1988 with his wife Terah. Together they had raised 2 sons, Mike and Mark. Jesse and Terah retired from Education only to start their next endeavor; opening a Daylily farm which was a long-time dream of Terah's. They won many accolades for their daylily breeding. Flowers that they bred and named are still being used to create new beauties. They also welcomed 2 more grandchildren after their retirement bringing their total to 4.

Jesse was always grateful for the tremendous support from family, school staff, and parents.

