

TERRY SMITH

TERRY MALONE SMITH WAS BORN THE SEVENTH OF EIGHT CHILDREN TO VIVIAN SMITH RONE. GROWING UP IN THE SHADOWS OF

Carbon Hill High School, Terry took an initial liking to sports as he watched the Bulldogs play baseball. The first real experience that Terry had with sports came from playing toy bowl football for Carbon Hill. His fondest memory was being carried off the field after the Bulldogs defeated the Jasper Travelers for the first time. This moment was especially fond because his weight had been questioned but he passed the requirement and was allowed to participate. He lettered in all 3 sports for 4 years which was almost unheard of in that time and from 1974-1978 he was a stalwart for the Bulldogs. Terry earned All-County in football multiple times with his junior season being the best. He scored 106 points and rushed for 1,225 yards as the Bulldogs won 8 games and he was selected honorable mention All-State and team most valuable player. The 1978 team was not quite as successful, but he still scored 10 touchdowns and kicked the winning field goal to help defeat Lamar County. As good as Terry was in football, he may have been even better in basketball. Terry had not factored into playing much varsity basketball as a freshman, but injuries forced him into playing and play he did. The Bulldogs led by fellow Hall-of-Famer Robert Clements won the county championship game and Terry chipped in 14 points. On at least 7 other occasions, he scored in double figures that season. In just junior and senior seasons, Terry recorded at least 11 double doubles and was selected All-County both years. Some of the highlights from these performances were a 30 points 16 rebounds against a Mike Davis led Fayette County and 22 points and 20 rebounds against Marion County. Terry's senior season ended with the Bulldogs winning 19 games and he averaged 18 points and 16 rebounds per game. Coach Bruce Handley reflected on Terry, "He's got excellent quickness. He's a good leaper, ball handler, and passer. He's signed with Tennessee State, but he is capable of playing college basketball." With all those accomplishments, his first love of baseball may have been his best sport. Terry started playing of the semiprofessional Carbon Hill A's when he was 14 years old. The A's were a member of the Birmingham Industrial League and finished league runner-up in 1977 with Terry holding down an outfield position. Not only was he selected All County in baseball multiple times but also, he was selected to play in the High School All Star game. With his outstanding play, he was selected to participate in the next round at Decatur, but it conflicted with graduation, so he did not participate. After working out for the Cincinnati Reds, they wanted him to sign a contract immediately, but he had already signed a football scholarship. Terry had been recruited by legendary Coach Archie Cooley to Nashville and Terry became a Tennessee State Tiger. After returning to Carbon Hill, Terry began working in various manufacturing jobs and currently works for Yorozu Automotive in Jasper. He also is the proud father of Candice Sudduth of Montgomery, Alabama.

