



WARRIOR HALL OF HONOR

Recognition Ceremony
October 14, 2011

*Warren High School Football Stadium
Half time of Warren vs. Chillicothe game*

WARRIOR HALL OF HONOR

Presenting the Inaugural Class



As Principal of Warren High School it is my honor and privilege to serve as a representative of the Warren Local Schools *Warrior Hall of Honor* committee. On behalf of our organization, I would like to welcome you and thank you for taking part in the induction of our inaugural class.

Since the first Warren High School graduating class in 1961, our community has been blessed by men and women who have positively contributed to our District's enduring success or represented our District with great pride and distinction. Through your nominations the *Warrior Hall of Honor* will honor those who have made such contributions.

Pride and tradition within a School District does not occur by chance but rather through the quality of individuals who impact that District through their contributions over a period of time. Our District, like others throughout our State and Country, are fortunate to have numerous individuals who have made such contributions. Our inaugural class certainly represents our District with great honor, pride and distinction!

As High School Principal I am proud of our committee and the work that has been accomplished over a short period of time. It was our desire to create an organization that would work within our community to identify people who have made a lasting impact on our District. We are confident that this inaugural class positively represents our mission!

Congratulations to our inductees!

Dan Leffingwell
Warren High School Principal

MAJOR GENERAL MARK ATKINSON

Warren High School Class of 1977



Mark Atkinson is a 1977 graduate of Warren High School where he participated in football, wrestling and baseball. During his senior year he served as Student Council President and was inducted into the National Honor Society.

Major General Mark A. Atkinson is the Director of Logistics, Headquarters Air Combat Command, Langley Air Force Base, Virginia.

General Atkinson entered the Air Force in 1982 as an ROTC graduate of Ohio University. He is a career logistics officer having commanded two squadrons, a maintenance group, and an air logistics center maintenance wing. He has held staff assignments at Strategic Air Command, Air Education and Training Command, Air Force Material Command, Air Force Personnel Center, Air Combat Command, and the Air Staff.

He deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom serving as a logistics adviser to CENTAF. Prior to his current assignment, he was the Director of Logistics, Installations and Mission Support, Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in Europe, Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

Education: Ohio University - BS in Education, US Air Force - ROTC, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University - MS in Aeronautical Science, The Air War College - MS in Strategic Studies, Syracuse University - National Security Fellowship, University of Virginia - Enterprise Leadership



Major awards and decorations: Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Air Force commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, Air Force Achievement Medal.

General Atkinson notes, "I often refer to my time at Warren High School in speeches and at civic events. I've recounted how our football and wrestling coach, Mr. Moore, instilled in us an attitude of perseverance. His encouragement challenged us to achieve more than we personally thought we were capable of achieving. Senior English teacher, Mrs. Cowell, spent time talking about reaching our individual full potential. She inspired us to step away from the crowd and be leaders vice followers. I've used her words on many occasions while counseling young people in their quest for personal and professional success. Mr. Scragg, our American History teacher, was a constant source of inspiration with his many ties, his patriotic attitude, and his ability to relate history in a way that intrigued me even when my young mind was focused on other things. These teachers (and others) taught me personal courage, leadership, and patriotism that I've carried with me literally around the globe in places such as the Pentagon and even through the streets of Baghdad."

Other activities and community involvement include: youth sports coach, Sunday School teacher, church deacon, president and vice president local chapters of the National Logistics Association, member National Military Officers Association, Habitat for Humanity volunteer, American Cancer Society and March for the Cure organizer, advisor/mentor Junior Executive Council.

RALPH D. COFFMAN, JR.

Warren High School Class of 1968



Ralph Coffman graduated from Warren High School in 1968 and from Ohio State University in 1973 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture Education. Continuing education was obtained from

The Ohio State University, Walsh University, Rio Grande University, and Ohio University.

High School activities included: football, basketball, baseball (lettered in each), track junior year, and captain of the basketball team his senior year. FFA participation and honors: Star Greenhand, Star Chapter Farmer, State Dairy Products Judging, Parliamentary Procedure, State Degree, Treasurer and President and Parliamentary Procedure President and Chairman. In addition, he attended Ohio Buckeye Boys State in 1967 and served as Senior Class President.

Mr. Coffman taught Agriculture Education/FFA at Fort Frye High School from 1973-2008. He was selected for a teacher training live classroom instruction video (1976-77) to be used as a model of classroom instruction. Five Soil Conservation teams qualified for national finals by placing in the top two in Ohio and one team placed ninth in the United States under his instruction. He has coached students in grades 7-12 and trained OSU student teachers.

Many honors and awards have been bestowed on Mr. Coffman, and, he is an author, held offices on boards of state and district agriculture teachers, OSU College of Food, Agriculture and Environmental Sciences Alumni Board, and has worked with numerous local and community groups. He serves as an elder at his church, also has



served as a Sunday School teacher and in many other leadership positions in the church.

Mr. Coffman relates the following, “There were many significant influences in my life including my family and growing up on a 330 acre dairy farm. The education received from Warren Local Schools was instrumental in any success that I have been blessed with in my life. The best teacher I had at Warren Elementary was Mrs. Herald in third grade – she was tough and commanded attention as she was a master fundamental teacher with discipline creating a great learning atmosphere. The most outstanding teacher I was blessed to have in high school, and I was blessed to have several, was Mr. Earnest Pierson who was a highly motivated and organized math teacher who demanded your attention and your best from the moment the bell rang until he dismissed you at the bell ending class – he taught, he inspired and you developed a strong desire to excel. Although I did not have him as a classroom teacher, my Uncle Hugh Coffman’s example was the reason that I became an agricultural education/ FFA teacher. I watched the work he got and the respect that he garnered from every student ranging from the lowest ability to the most gifted – they all respected him and he was a disciplinarian – getting work and respect from such a wide range of students was uncommon!”

“Being named Fort Frye National Honor Society Teacher of the Year twice in my last seven years was humbling. Students today are just as great as when I began teaching, they just have more baggage that they bring into class – I liken it to layers of clothing – there is a good kid in there somewhere if you have enough time, patience and energy to find them.”

DR. VERNA WEINSTOCK HILLSTROM

Warren High School Class of 1966



Dr. Verna Hillstrom is a 1966 graduate of Warren High School and a 1970 graduate from The Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in microbiology. She then went on to receive her medical degree from The

Ohio State University College of Medicine in 1973. She completed her internship and residency at Hennepin County Medical Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

She is currently employed at North Memorial Clinic, Elk River, Minnesota. She is board certified in family medicine and is a member of the American Academy of Family Practice and the Minnesota Academy of Family Practice. In addition, she has served various years as Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Family Practice at the University of Minnesota for precepting medical students.

She and her husband are active in their local church and teach second through fourth graders in Sunday School. They have led a mission team to Choluteca, Honduras, yearly for the past four years and were a part of the church's first mission trip there five years ago. They are committed to helping the people of Honduras in any way they can and love the people there. Other trips as a missionary doctor were to Nepal 1980-84 and to Haiti in 1985.

She and her husband have one daughter, Val, who is a nurse in labor and delivery and who will be getting married this fall.

Dr. Hillstrom says the following about her years at Warren, "I count my education at Warren High School and my elementary education at Vincent Grade School and the Barlow-Vincent Ele-

mentary School as foundational for my whole career. I realize now that although Warren High was not a large school, I could not have asked for a better education. My teachers were the greatest! Mr. Max Smith was my science teacher from junior high through high school physics. I remember that the pre-med physics course at OSU was actually easy because of what Mr. Smith had taught me. Mr. Ernie Pearson was one of the best math teachers anyone could ever have. I still remember his challenge to all of us to think of just one original idea! (I'm still thinking!) He helped me win the county math competition one year over arch-rival Fort Frye, and did that ever make my dad (who was principal then) proud!! Mrs. Kristen Holt was such an inspiration in Spanish that I took a year in college and still love it. My Spanish has come back on our trips to Honduras and even vacations in Mexico—and I want to keep studying it! Mr. Hess was my band teacher for many years, including my early years of learning how to play flute and piccolo. I still remember the fun band trips we took and Mr. Hess's telling me in marching band to pretend that my music holder for my flute (which I had to hold up with my left arm while playing with both hands on my flute) was attached to a star. That helped me keep my head up while marching.

I consider it a great honor, indeed, to be in Warren High's Hall of Honor, notwithstanding the fact that my parents played a huge part in my education. My mother and father always emphasized the importance of a good education. I credit the Lord for giving me the courage and strength to pursue the goals He has given me. I would want other Warren High students to 'reach for stars' as well in their lives. I believe that success lies not in what you do, however, but in who you are."

CECIL JOHNSON

Warren Local School District Coach and Teacher 1962 - 1991



Cecil Johnson devoted 29 years of service to Warren Local School District as a physical education instructor and coach from 1962 until his retirement in 1991. He tried to pass on a positive outlook on sports and life to his students. He told his athletes that not many of them would be able to be professional athletes, “so when you get out in life, just try to be a good citizen, a good father or mother.”

Mr. Johnson had an early start in his career in athletics and coaching when he was elected Best All-Around Athlete in the Class of 1948 at Calhoun County High School in Grantsville, West Virginia. He was a three-sport athlete at CCHS: on the pitching mound in baseball, a quarterback in football and basketball team captain his senior year.

He graduated in 1952 from Glenville State College where he majored in Health and Physical Education and represented the Glenville Pioneers on the football field, baseball field and basketball court. He was captain of the basketball squad his senior year. At halftime during Homecoming following his graduation, Mr. Johnson was honored as Glenville State College’s first recipient of the Frank Montrose Award. The award has been given each year since. It honors a male Glenville State College graduate who not only was an outstanding athlete but also a scholar, a leader, and a person of high moral character.

Mr. Johnson served in the United States Army from 1952 to 1954, stationed at Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland. His teaching career began in the fall of 1954 at his high school alma mater,

Calhoun County High School. He taught Civics and served on the coaching staff in football, basketball and baseball until the spring of 1962. In the fall of 1962, he transferred to the area from West Virginia and began work at Barlow-Vincent Elementary as a physical education teacher.

From 1962 to 1976, he coached on the elementary level with fourth through sixth graders and organized the first girls’ junior high basketball team at Barlow-Vincent. He coached BV boys’ and girls’ junior high basketball until 1990. Mr. Johnson was assistant varsity football coach at Warren High School from 1970 to 1972 and freshman football coach from 1972 to 1974.

While he enjoyed all sports, coaching baseball was his great joy. Mr. Johnson led the varsity baseball team at Warren High School for 23 seasons, from 1962 to 1985. Under his leadership, the Warriors were named Tri-Valley Conference champions eight times and district and sectional champions in 1980 and 1982. Johnson was named the TVC Coach of the Year twice, and District All-Star Coach one time.

Along with many community members, Mr. Johnson helped to organize, and coached Barlow-Vincent youth baseball league teams.

Mr. Johnson’s community service involvement included being a member of the American Legion and the Lions Club.

He is remembered for his love of children, sports and unending patience and sense of fairness.

Mr. Johnson passed away on August 27, 2010.

CLYDE MAYLE

Warren High School Class of 1967



Clyde Mayle attended Cutler and Bartlett Schools, graduated from Warren High School with the Class of 1967, and earned degrees in education and administration from Ohio University and The Ohio State University.

He taught in Columbus City Schools then joined the Cutler staff in 1974, as the 5th/6th grade teacher and head teacher. Later Mr. Mayle was assigned as assistant principal and then principal of Barlow-Vincent. In 1986, Mr. Mayle began working for Washington County Schools as Curriculum Supervisor, a position he held until his return to Warren in 1996, as Director of Pupil and Support Services. In 1998 he served as Interim Superintendent for Warren Local.

The Clyde Mayle Scholarship Fund was established at his retirement to honor his work at Warren. Other honors include: Dedicated Service as Interim Superintendent (1998), Administrator of the Year (1999-2000), Loyalty and Dedication to WLS D (2000), Parade Marshall for Barlow (2001).

Community involvement includes: Board of Directors Bartlett Farmers Bank (1991-present), Washington County Retired Teachers, and Scenic Hills Lions Club. He supports the Bartlett Volunteer Fire Department, Cutler Community Center, Cutler Station fundraisers, and Barlow Fairgrounds.

Mr. Mayle's wife, Ann, submitted the following, "It is a rarity to find someone who literally 'came up the ranks' of a school district, as Clyde Mayle did. He helped his mother mop the floors of Cutler School when she worked as the custodian of that building,

attended the elementary schools, graduated from the high school and later returned to the district. His invested dedication to the students and staff of the Warren Local School District, in my opinion, remains unmatched by anyone.

Clyde worked tirelessly for Warren and maintained an uncanny balance of professional and personable relationships with his co-workers, community members, parents and students. His unusual blend of leadership and genuine friendships was evidenced by his knack for running a well-organized classroom, school building, or district, while being able to join the fun with students, staff, and community members.

When he was asked to serve as the Interim Superintendent, while also maintaining his role as Director of Pupil and Support Services, his hours were consumed with overseeing the district's buildings, staffs, curriculum, special education services, transportation and technology. In order to spend time with our young daughter, he would pick her up in the evenings and she would travel to the various district's events (near and far), that Clyde felt were important to support by his attendance.

During one year's teacher appreciation dinner, where tradition has dictated that the administrators are good-naturedly roasted, one of the teachers/administrators shared with me that they couldn't think of anything bad to say about Clyde. I think this pretty much sums up the overall opinion that people have about Clyde Mayle. In my eyes, he is an unsung hero and his degree of dedication to Warren will not be replicated. Clyde's service to the district epitomizes the qualities of someone who has given their 'time, effort and energy' to the Warren Local School District."



THANK YOU

The *Warrior Hall of Honor* is being funded through private donations and fundraising, as well as Warren High School's Partner in Education, Smith Concrete.



For additional information please contact Dan Leffingwell at 740-678-2393 x1102, or by e-mail at w1_dleffingw@warrenlocal.org.

The by-laws, the selection criteria process and a nomination form for the *Warrior Hall of Honor* can be found online at www.warrenlocal.k12.oh.us/

