

Dear Robbie,

Coach Scott asked me to write a note to you about a Turnbull Award winner, Jerry Schmidt (1962), who is my best friend. This note to you is because you have the special stick of the Turnbull brothers. The depth of my friendship is best expressed by quoting Robert Louis Stevenson: "Of what shall a man be proud, if he is not proud of his friends?"

Jerry and I met when we both played for the University Club that won the National Open Championship. That friendship blossomed into Jerry becoming my best man. While Jerry was associate coach at Navy he engineered the only win against the University of Maryland during my tenure. Even with his endless awards, I remember him as the man who saved my professional and personal life by convincing one of his former players, who was a head of school, to hire an old coach who couldn't find a job.

Let me tell you about another remarkable person! Coach Schmidt was in the hospital recovering from a major surgery, uncertain about his future as his whole life had been playing and coaching lacrosse. Former Army and Maryland coach, Dick Edell, came into Jerry's room quickly changing Jerry's mindset with the sharing of past lacrosse stories. Jerry told me if anyone needed advice about life or lacrosse he recommended contacting Coach Edell.

Best Wishes and Kindest Regards,

Dick Szlasa