



T. Geraldine "Gerrie" Halbert
Coach 1948-1984
Inducted 2021

Born in Fowler, Kansas, Gerrie earned her bachelor's degree in Education from the University of Northern Colorado. She taught and coached in Buhl, Minnesota and Big Rapids, Michigan before moving to Grants Pass High School in 1948. She taught Physical Education at GPHS for 36 years until her retirement in 1984.

Gerrie, along with Maxine Fender, led the drive to build a girl's gym at GPHS. The Girls Gym was completed in 1956. In the late 1960's they started the GAA (Girls Athletic Association), a group of athletes that met during noon hour to compete in games not available in PE Class. GAA was the precursor to girls' sports.

In 1974, the first Girls Basketball team was formed, and coached by Gerrie. She continued to coach Basketball until 1982 and assisted Miss Fender in Volleyball during the same period. She also started and coached the Girls Tennis Team.

A former player described Miss Halbert as "intense, motivated and a competitor". Through the years, she amassed a list of accomplishments and honors:

- 1975: Basketball league champions
 - 1976: Basketball league champions and Consolation Trophy at State Tournament
 - 1977: Basketball league Champion, 7th in State
 - 1977: Nominated for National Girls Basketball Coach of the Year Award**
 - 1978: Basketball league champions, qualified for State Tournament
 - 1978: SOC Girls Basketball Coach of the Year**
 - 1978: Oregon Girls Basketball Coach of the Year**
 - 1979: Basketball league champions, qualified for State Tournament
 - 1980: Basketball league champions, qualified for State Tournament
- Career Basketball Record: 111 wins, 44 losses*

Gerrie enjoyed a variety of activities, including golf, fishing, bowling, and spending time at the cabin at Lake of the Woods.

There is no doubt that her high expectations, success, and love for her athletes formed the basis for the successful girls' athletic programs that Grants Pass High School enjoys today.