

Linda Petrie
Class of 1969
Inducted in 2018



Linda was born in 1949 in Los Angeles, California. Her family moved to Grants Pass when she was in the third grade. Linda's athletic abilities were evident at an early age. Soon after moving to Grants Pass, Linda heard about a fast-pitch semi-pro softball team in White City and tried out for the team. Linda was much younger than the rest of the team- the other members being in their 20's and 30's-but Linda earned her position on the team and played for about 8 years, until the team disbanded.

While at GPHS, Linda lettered in softball, basketball, and track and field. While competing in the javelin Linda was a student of the sport, watching videos to improve her technique and improving her performances every year. Linda was the State Champion in the javelin for three years in a row; in 1967 with a throw of 124'10", in 1968 with a throw of 125'8", and in 1969 with a throw of 134"0". Linda initially set the school record early in her career and continued to improve that record through her senior season.

Her throw of 134' at the State Meet in 1969 was also a National Record for her division. Linda held the GPHS school record in the javelin for nearly 30 years. Linda was awarded the "Caveman Bench Award" from Hodges during 1967, 1968, and 1969. At a time when athletic opportunities for women were limited, Linda worked hard to compete and was a stand out for her athletic accomplishments.

After high school, Linda began teaching Karate to children, adults, and the State Police department. She also taught self-defense at RCC. As Linda became more and more involved in Karate, she began competing. Linda competed throughout the region (Montana, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Wyoming), achieved a ranking of #5 in the region, and earned 3rd place in the regional tournament.

Linda also became involved again in fast-pitch softball, joining a city league team in 1971 and playing for 8 years, until the team changed to playing slow pitch softball. In 2001 Linda began playing for the Relics, a local 50 and over softball team. The Relics were training for the World Senior Games, a competition with over 33 countries. Over the years, Linda has earned 149 medals at the World Senior Games and in 2016 received a ring that signifies 15 years of participation in the World Senior Games.

Linda gives credit to her dad, Ivan Petrie, for her success in all sports. He taught her everything about sports and was instrumental in her success.

In 2001, Linda and her friend started a business in oil expiration in Kentucky, which was featured on The Discovery Channel in an episode showcasing the technology used to locate backyard oil. Currently Linda continues to train and compete in the World Senior Games.