

2006 - Richard W. Prince, Class of '47

Richard Prince graduated from Elida in the class of 1947. During his high school years, he played varsity football, basketball and baseball. He then attended Findlay College (Class of '53), and played four years of varsity football, basketball and baseball. While at Findlay, he served as Captain of the basketball teams that advanced to two NAIA tournaments in Kansas City. In 1963, he received his Master's Degree from Indiana University. From 1955 - 1989, he worked at Elida High School, serving as Athletic Director (20 years) and also as a coach. For 26 years, he served as the baseball coach, with a record of 351 wins and 157 losses. He also served as the ACME head coach for 6 years, an American Legion baseball coach for 4 years, and an OSU-Lima baseball coach for 2 years. Rounding out his coaching career, he also served as an assistant football coach and a varsity basketball coach. He was instrumental in setting up the Annual Holiday Basketball Tournament. Mr. Prince has been honored many times: in 1952, he was nominated to the 1952 American College Student Leaders. In 1975, he was elected to the Findlay College Hall of Fame and honored as the high school coach of the year by Findlay College. He was the 1975-76 WBL coach of the year in baseball. In 1976, he was inducted into the Ohio High School Baseball Coach Hall of Fame at OSU in Columbus. In 1990, he received the Elida Sertoma "Service to Mankind Award". Baseball coaching honors include: 1958 Ohio High School State Baseball semi-finals, 1968 ACME State Baseball runner-ups, 1969 ACME State Baseball runner-ups, 1970 ACME State Baseball Champions, 1971 ACME State Baseball Champions, 1976 Ohio High School Class AA State Baseball Champions, 1980 State American Legion Baseball runner-ups, 1981 State American Legion Baseball runner-ups, 1982 State American Legion Baseball semi-finals.