

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.