

HALL OF DISTINCTION

Class of 2022

INDUCTION CEREMONY

Thursday, October 6, 2022

Howard Jolliff

Those of you who are parents or grandparents know that our kids or grandkids sometimes learn who we are by observing what we do or say through our work or job....Karen Jolliff Dowling remembers doing her homework at the kitchen table while her Dad, Howard Jolliff, a principal at Canton South High School, wrote a note on each report card... one report card at a time. Graduating classes at that time averaged over 200, so with three classes that was over 600 report cards every nine weeks. Karen remembers he would circle something on each card and write, "Great job" or "I know you can do better," Karen asked "Dad why do you spend so much time doing this?" His answer stuck with Karen and affirms for all of us who know Howard Jolliffwho he is as an educator and more importantly as a man. Howard simply said "Karen some of these kids do not get any encouragement at home.... that is why I do this."

Howard Jolliff graduated from Canton South in 1956. He was a star basketball player for the Wildcats undefeated team in 1955-56. He went on to Ohio University where after his junior year he was drafted by the Los Angeles Lakers becoming the first Ohio University Bobcat and only Canton South Wildcat to play in the NBA. He played with and against legends like Jerry West and Wilt Chamberlain. With that being said.....

If you know Mr. Jolliff, you know you had to learn about his accomplishments from others...if you were a student (and I was blessed to be one during his time here).....he was Mr.Jolliff...encouraging....caring....even tempered..... fair...always a gentleman! Oh, and as a sophomore seeing him for the first time, a very tall individual!

Mr. Jolliff returned to his alma mater in 1973 to be the principal and positively impacted students, staff and our community for 20 years. He was a driver in the schools growth and expansion including leading the effort to have vocational facilities and programs on our campus.

A great husband, for 61 years to his wife Brenda who he met at Ohio U. When Karen is asked about her parent's relationship, she simply replies "they are best friends..... great father to Chuck and Karen...a great father-in-law to Iris and Mike. A great grandfather to Taylor and Mitchell.

And recently, a new great title; A great papa to Brooks.

Add all those greats up and that is Howard Jolliff....a great man and a blessing to Canton Local and all of us whose lives he has touched.