Millsap High School

Athletic Hall of Fame

Est. 2023



Bill McDonald spent his first 8 years of school in the Garner school system. Before he was ever exposed to a school sponsored basketball program, he fell in love with the sport. Living in Garner, he never had the opporunity to go to the gym and practice basketball, so his early basketball exposure involved practicing his shot on a wooden backboard that his Dad made for him and dribbling in the dirt at his home.

As he quickly perfected his shot, Bill instantly became someone the coach noticed when he stepped onto the hardwood floor. In 1957, Bill began his high school career for the Bulldogs where he found immediate success. He was on varsity all four years, starting three of the years. He was known for his amazing shooting ability and was known as a "gunner" by his teammates and coach. He scored any way he could; however, his jump shot was his claim to fame. His stats as a starter included 20+ points per game and 12+ rebounds per game. It is noted that during practice, he made 122 freethrows in a row before missing a shot.

As a Sr., Bill led his team with his scoring abilities and overall basketball skills to the District Championship, Weatherford College Tournament Champions, and 3rd place in the Corpus Christi Tournament.

During his high school career, some of his accolades include – Most Athletic, Leading Scorer, All-District honors, All-Tournament honors and was voted as Team Captain both his Jr. and Sr. years. He also started on the District Champion Baseball team (they did not have a play-off system in place at that time).

Bill continued his basketball career at the collegiate level playing at East Texas Baptist University, Weatherford College (where he averaged 25 points per game) and then went to Texas A&M University as a graduate assistant to the legendary Shelby Metcalf. Upon leaving Texas A&M, he applied for and was hired at Weatherford College as the Men's Basketball Coach and later completed his coaching career at Amarillo College. He is yet another product of the former successful Millsap Coach, Bob Derryberry.

Bill and his wife, Nancy, currently live in Amarillo, Texas where he is a retired insurance agent for State Farm.

Bill McDonald ~ Basketball 1961