



Coach Jack Woodrow Tucker

March 6, 1926 - July 15, 2014

Our beloved Coach, Jack Woodrow Tucker, age 88, passed peacefully in his sleep on July 15, 2014 at 1215 a.m. from Russellville Health Care Center to his eternal home in Heaven where he reunited with his wife of “32 wonderful years”- Doris Kerby Hargett, his parents- Dallas and Edley (Turner) Tucker of Cullman, Ala. and many other family and friends. Praise God! Coach is survived by two step-children, 8 step-nieces/nephews, 20+ cousins, and thousands of adoring team players, fellow teachers/coaches, students, fans, and friends who love him as Coach, mentor, teacher, role model and dad.

At age 17 Jack volunteered for Airforce Pilot School in the last days of WWII. Once enlisted he was diverted to training as a “Belly Gunner” in B24 Bombers and stationed on Guam. Upon returning to his hometown of Cullman, Ala. Jack finished high school playing on the basketball team. In 1952 he graduated with honors from The University

of Alabama where he was a member of Delta Sigma Phi fraternity. He worked one year in a Detroit automobile factory before returning to Cullman High School to begin his illustrious coaching career. He went on to coach at Hanceville, Ala. and to Warner Robins High School, Georgia. Then in 1963 Head Coach Bill Doty recruited him to Russellville High School as assistant Football Coach and Head Basketball Coach. He taught AmHistory, Physical Science and PE and coached the Golden Tigers until his retirement in 1988-He launched the girls' basketball and golf programs at Russellville. Stats from his career as Head Coach: 533 wins, 242 losses, 9 state tournament appearances, 1 State Championship (Basketball 1982). Inducted into Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame-1995. Area Coach of the Year 5 times, State Coach of the Year 2 times, coached the Ala. High School basketball All Stars once. His teams had fifteen 20-win seasons and one 30-win season. Due to his spectacular success he has been crowned by his players as "the Bear Bryant of Russellville". He is remembered fondly as manager/swim instructor at City Lake Park in the 1960's/70's. He loved fishing the gulf and rivers of the south. An avid golfer, he played throughout his life at Twin Pines Country Club and at courses across the southeast.

He was a member of First Baptist Church-Russellville until his marriage in

1973 when

he became a member of First United Methodist Church-Russellville for 40 years until his death.

Services will be held at Pinkard Funeral Home, Highway 24, Russellville, Ala., Friday, July 18th. Viewing 11 a.m. until 1 p.m., service following. Pallbearers will be announced. Honorary Pallbearers-All of Tucker's Tigers.

Cemetery Details

Knights of Pythias

Clay Avenue
Russellville, AL 35653

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 18. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Pinkard Funeral Home - Russellville
27305 Hwy 24 East
P.O. Box 502
Russellville, AL 35653
(256) 332-7772
info@pinkardfh.com
<https://www.pinkardfh.com>

Funeral Service

JUL 18. 1:00 PM (CT)

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Tribute Wall

MM

“ I got a chance to visit Coach a few years ago when he was still at his home and again this spring in the nursing home. He was still Coach Tucker. He not only taught us about playing basketball but about life after basketball and for that I will always be grateful. Thanks Coach.

Mike McCulloch - July 28, 2014 at 09:41 AM

LT

“ One of the greatest men I have ever met, honored to have called him a friend for over 47 years. Rest in peace, my friend. Larry Thornton

larry thornton - July 18, 2014 at 05:28 PM

SG

“ I will always remember Coach Tucker at the City Lake and playing for him on the basketball team .

Sam Gaston - July 18, 2014 at 03:51 PM

JL

“ John E Langcuster lit a candle in memory of Coach Jack Woodrow Tucker



John E Langcuster - July 18, 2014 at 09:18 AM

JL

“ Coach was a true champion defined by his ability to help build character with young men and women on and off the court. He gave me a summer job and taught me the importance of working a job with discipline and focus. Coach was known as a basketball coach, but I also remember him as a hero. At age 17, Coach volunteered for Airforce Pilot school in the last days of World War II. Once enlisted, he was diverted to training as a "belly gunner". I think of him often and will never forget my last visit with him at his house several years ago in Russellville. I loved the man and respected him for what he stood for. He taught me many valuable lessons. He was part of the great generation and a shining star. God Bless Coach and Peace be with him and his family.

John E. Langcuster

John E Langcuster - July 18, 2014 at 09:14 AM

SM

“ What a legacy! Loved by so many whose lives he touched. I remember him as a teacher, co-worker and family friend. His memory will live on with the memories of so many great individuals who walked those halls of RHS. Rest in peace, Coach.
Stan McCarver (RHS-'67)

Stan McCarver - July 17, 2014 at 09:16 AM

BR

“ I consider it an honor and a privilege to have been associated with "Coach". A great man has gone but his memories will never fade away. Thanks for all the life-lessons we take with us daily that you instilled in us. Here's to "Smiling Jack"....may your legend out-live us all!---Bucky Rea--RHS-1975-1977

Bucky Rea - July 17, 2014 at 07:54 AM