



Harold C. Johnson

October 17, 1918 - July 27, 2008

Harold Cecil Johnson, age 89, of Topeka, KS passed away Sunday, July 27, 2008 from complications resulting from a recent auto accident. He was born October 17, 1918 in Hartford, Kansas, the son of Ross and Elizabeth Johnson. Harold was the 6th of seven children that included four brothers and two sisters, all preceding him in death. Harold loved the outdoors from a young age and was an avid fisherman throughout his life. As a teenager he earned the rank of Eagle Scout from the Boy Scouts of America. He attended Kansas Wesleyan University, where he excelled as a basketball player and received his degree in Education. Upon his graduation, he was drafted into the Navy during World War II. He was discharged in December 1945 with the rank of Specialist A 2nd class. He married, the love of his life, Dorris E. Tebben on January 27, 1940. They met on campus at Kansas Wesleyan and would travel much of the world throughout their life together. In 1948 the couple and their daughter moved to Parsons, KS where Harold and Dorris would teach at Parsons High School for many years. In 15 years as the basketball coach at Parsons High School his teams compiled a 190-35 record (84.4% percent victories) and won 10 SEK championships. For his efforts, he would later be inducted into the Kansas Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame and in 2001 the Kansas State High School Activities Association Hall of Fame. After giving everything to coaching he stepped away in 1963 to start a second career in insurance. He worked as an agent for State Farm until his retirement in 1981. Retirement away from family and friends did not suit

Harold and Dorris, so after 18 months in Bella Vista, AK they moved to Topeka, KS to be closer to friends and family in 1982. Harold leaves behind his wife of 69 years, Dorris (Tebben) Johnson, a daughter Susan Hughes and husband Larry of Topeka, KS and a son H. Kemper Johnson of New York, NY. He also had two grandsons: John Hughes and his wife Stephanie of Topeka, KS and Jeff H. Hughes of Topeka, KS. He also had three great granddaughters that he adored: Taylor, Talisa, and Tateum. Memorial Services will be held at 11:00 am Thursday, July 31, 2008 at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Rd., Topeka, KS. In lieu of flowers the family suggests contributions to: KANSAS STATE HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION INC. In memory of Harold C. Johnson, P.O. Box 495, Topeka, Kansas 66601-0495. Helping to support the growth of positive learning through sports.

Tribute Wall



“ *Harold C. Johnson*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *Dorris, Susie, Larry, John, Jeff, Kemper, and all: I was very sorry to read of Harold's passing. I have so many fond memories of Emporia State basketball and all of you. Sorry I can't make the services but I have to be in K.C. Thursday. Please accept my sincere sympathy. Hope all of you are doing well. Walter*

Walter Clark - July 31, 2008 at 12:11 AM



“ *Please accept our condolences. Harold was a wonderful man and his life touched many young people in his years as a coach. We are honored by your family's decision to identify the KSHSAA as the recipient of memorial contributions in Harold's honor. We will honor your request to use memorial contributions to further the goal of facilitating participation in high school sports by all children. This is a reflection of Harold's life long commitment and service to youth.*

Gary Musselman, KSHSAA Executive Director - July 30, 2008 at 08:14 AM

RH

“ I was so touched when I found out about Harold's passing. As a former player on his team, I speak for perhaps hundreds of those youthful high school kids whose lives were shaped so well by having experienced his coaching us on and off the basketball court. I proudly attended his Kansas Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame induction and I vividly remember his saying to my brother, Don and me "I sure worked you kids so hard"....my reply then and now is that he demanded the best from us and received the best from us. And then we took that confidence and applied it to those future challenges that life brings. Success is sometimes measured in wins and losses, but true significance lies in those kinds of "wins" that are won each and every day due to the influence of an important individual in one's life. Harold was that influence for us all. My love and heart goes out to all those he touched, and I'm sure his family and friends know exactly how significant a life he lived.

Ronald Hicks - July 29, 2008 at 10:44 PM

DH

“ My heart felt condolences are sent to Dorris, Susie, Larry and family. I have so many fond memories of having Harold as my coach (as does my twin brother Ron).

He was a great man on and off the court. Many of us loved that man.

Donald Hicks - July 29, 2008 at 10:04 PM

LP

“ *Dorris, Susie, Kemper and family: I learned this morning of Harold's death. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. Harold was a special person to all of us. Harold brought much fun and joy to all of us in the past years. He will always be remembered by me as Ron's best friend in good times and bad. Dorris, it's not easy without our guys but you've got a great family that will love you through this. I'm thinking of you and will try to get to Topeka to see you at some point this Fall. Linda*

Linda Pfingsten - July 29, 2008 at 02:48 PM