

# North Carolina Softball Hall of Fame

Through their years of dedication to the games of fast pitch or slow pitch, these individuals have all made significant impact on high school softball in North Carolina as well as on the many players they have been involved with directly or indirectly. In their own ways, they have contributed greatly to the growth and evolution of the game that we enjoy today. The North Carolina Softball Hall of Fame hereby bestows the recognition they deserve.



**Hayley Anne Shelton (Sharpe)**  
East Surry High School

- East Surry High School 2006-2010
- Career Leader in Wins, Strikeouts, and ERA
- Top 20 in NC in 3 years on Varsity
- Top 10 in NC in ERA 0.36
- 66 strikeouts in one state finals weekend
- 2009- 21 shutouts
- 2010- 20 shutouts
- 8-1 in State Finals Games (allowed 2 runs total)
- 3 Time State Finals MVP

One of the most dominant pitchers in North Carolina high school softball history, Hayley Anne Sharpe left an enduring legacy during her time at East Surry High School from 2006 to 2010. A force in the circle, Sharpe finished her career as the school's all-time leader in wins, strikeouts, and ERA - benchmarks that still stand today.

When hearing of her Hall of Fame selection, former East Surry head coach Derrick Hill said, "Hayley wasn't just an exceptional ball player, she was, and still is, a phenomenal human being. Her talent was incredible, but her character was even greater." Hayley Anne Sharpe's work ethic, competitive spirit, and unmatched dominance on the mound make her a deserving member of the NCSCA Hall of Fame, and a name that will forever be remembered in North Carolina softball history.

Inducted 2025



## **Ashton Ward**

Butler High School | University of Tennessee | Virginia Tech

Widely regarded as one of the most dominant pitchers in the Southeast from 2003 to 2007, Ashton Ward left a mark on the game of fastpitch softball. Her legendary career began at Butler High School in Charlotte, North Carolina, where her incredible talent and relentless drive quickly established her as one of the premier players in the nation.

**Butler High School:** A 2-time EA Sports All-American, Louisville Slugger All-American, and North Carolina Gatorade Player of the Year (2007), she was a 3-time Charlotte Observer Player of the Year and earned All-Conference, All-District, and All-State honors all four years. Leading the Bulldogs to two NC 4A State Championships, she was named the Championship Series MVP in 2007. Her dominance in the circle was historic, boasting a career high school record of 58-1, including a 0.00 ERA in both 2004 and 2005, a 0.02 ERA in 2006, and 0.28 ERA in 2007, with 360 strikeouts in just 170 innings pitched.

**The University of Tennessee,** where she continued to shine at the collegiate level. During her time at Tennessee, Ashton compiled a 27-5 record, posted a 1.88 ERA, and struck out 187 batters over 204 innings, holding opponents to a .195 batting average. She tossed four complete-game one-hitters, including gems against Top 25 teams LSU, Oregon, and Oklahoma State, and was honored as SEC Player of the Week twice.

**Virginia Tech,** where she continued to showcase her versatility and athleticism. In 2011, Ashton recorded a 1.10 ERA and held opposing hitters to a .197 batting average, while also contributing in the outfield and at shortstop when not in the circle.

Inducted 2025



## Kevin Dean Allran

Coach Allran began his journey at **Charlotte Latin School (1993–2007)**, where he not only started the fast-pitch program but also led his teams to multiple state tournament appearances and three conference championships. He was twice named CISAA Coach of the Year and coached 32 All-Conference athletes and 2 college players. Under his leadership, Charlotte Latin became a consistent tournament contender, with highlights including a runner-up finish in the NCISAA State Tournament and recognition as the 1998 Athletic Trainer of the Year.

At **Marvin Ridge High School (2007–2014)**, Coach Allran replicated his success, establishing the fast-pitch program and earning SCC Coach of the Year honors twice. His teams made multiple regional appearances, produced 21 All-Conference players, and sent 7 athletes on to play in college. He also served as Athletic Director, a Shrine Bowl Athletic Trainer, and coached Region 6 to multiple gold and silver medals.

Coach Allran's leadership extended to **CATA (2014–2016, 2018–2020)** where he made history with the most basketball wins in school history, led the varsity girls basketball program, and served as both softball assistant and JV baseball head coach. His contributions also included academic leadership as Department Chair of the Medical Academy.

In **2016–2017**, he took the reins at **Kings Mountain**, serving as Head Coach and Athletic Trainer, before moving to **Porter Ridge High School (2023–2025)** to conclude his coaching career. At Porter Ridge, he led the varsity softball team to 2 state playoff appearances and produced 6 All-Conference players, including 2 Division I athletes.

Across all schools, Coach Allran had an impressive career coaching record of 254–88. Beyond the wins and championships, he is celebrated for his tireless work as an athletic trainer, mentor, HOSA leader, and advocate for high school athletics across North Carolina. He was a founding member of the NC Softball Coaches Association, served as a Shrine Bowl Athletic Trainer, and held key leadership roles at the state level, including NCATA Licensure Board Chair. Coach Kevin Allran's legacy is one of service, leadership, and excellence. He built programs from the ground up, developed future leaders, and shaped the culture of high school athletics in North Carolina.

Inducted 2025



**Greg Jenkins**  
East Duplin High School

- Years as head coach: 23
- Record (through 2024): 349-162-1
- Conference Coach of the Year 9 times
- Area Coach of the Year 6 times
- NC Eastern Region Champion and State Runner-up: 2003

Coach Jenkins' involvement with softball extends well beyond his program at East Duplin High School where he is considered by many to be the school's founding father of fast pitch softball. His positive influence on young athletes is an asset to his community where his program is well known for its competitive nature. He has influenced North Carolina high school softball for many years through his involvement with the N.C. Softball Coaches Association where he was a founding member. He has served as his district's coordinator, the organization's Eastern Vice-President, and is involved with the state-wide recognition of softball athletes through the association's post-season awards program.

Under his leadership as coach of East Duplin's softball program, his teams have never experienced a losing season. With an overall win percentage of nearly 70%, Coach Jenkins manages to consistently improve and channel the abilities of his athletes, making them a competitive force year after year. Given the normal ups and downs of high school athletics, this is never an easy task.

As a teacher and coach, Coach Jenkins does things the right way and manages to maintain a connection with today's young athletes both in the classroom and on the field.

Inducted 2024



## **Kevin Baity**

West Forsyth High School

- Years as head coach: 28
- Record: 534-191
- State Championships: 1
- Regional Championships: 3
- Conference Championships: 11
- Conference Coach of the Year: 10

Coach Baity has been coaching fast pitch softball at West Forsyth High School since the switch from slow pitch in the mid 1990's. During that time, his superior coaching ability and knowledge of the game has created a tradition of success that has consistently placed his teams at the forefront of the sport. His teams never fail to provide a formidable challenge for any opponent in a region that is well-known for its high-level softball. His leadership as a teacher and coach motivates young athletes to dedicate themselves to being the best they can be, both in the classroom and on the field. His methods are a vital part of the foundation his players develop to carry them into successful lifetime careers beyond softball. Twenty-three of his many fine athletes have achieved success playing softball at the college level while pursuing their career goals.

Coach Baity is highly respected by his peers. Even though he retired from teaching in 2020, his love of the game continues to keep him in the role of head softball coach at West Forsyth.

Inducted 2024



**Deborah Clarke**  
Fuquay-Varina High School

- Years as head coach: 29
- Record- 438-125
- Five final four appearances
- Eastern Regional Champion: 2009
- Conference Championships: 14
- Conference Coach of the Year: 12 times
- Area Coach of the Year: 3 times
- Fuquay-Varina High School Athletics Hall of Fame member

Throughout her long career as an educator and coach, Coach Clark has touched the lives of countless young people who have benefited from her positive influence. Her record as softball coach certainly speaks for itself. A win percentage of nearly 80% over a 29-year coaching career in a region that is highly competitive in the world of high school softball is an elusive accomplishment! The expectations she demands of her student-athletes both in the classroom and on the field have helped thirty-one of them to go on to play college softball.

Coach Clark has been a consistent positive force in her community off the field as well. As a skilled teacher, she has been described as a top mentor, advisor, counselor, and disciplinarian. She readily steps into whatever role that is needed to help boost her players, students, and peers.

Inducted 2024



**Chelsea Leonard Martin, PT, DPT**  
Central Davidson High School, University of Louisville

After a stellar playing career and coaching at the collegiate level, Chelsea Martin continues to be closely associated with softball. She is currently a certified sports physical therapy specialist and pitching consultant. She is involved in studying athletics injury specifically as it relates to the throwing sports and is an authority on injury prevention. She actively works to promote the softball athlete's general health and wellness and is a sought-after speaker at clinics and seminars.

**Coaching Career (2013-2016)**

After serving as a volunteer assistant coach for Bellarmine University in 2013, Chelsea joined University of Pittsburg's coaching staff in 2014 as pitching coach. She then joined the staff at Georgia Southern University, working as pitching coach in 2015 and 2016.

**University of Louisville (2010-2013)**

Chelsea was a vital part of University of Louisville's softball team during her college career, which culminated in 2012 when she claimed the pitching staff's lowest ERA, most game strikeouts, and gave up zero home runs for the season. Her opponents batted a mere .194 against her. She also led the NCAA with 12 saves in 2012, which stands at third place on the all-time college softball record list.

**Central Davidson High School (2006-2009)**

North Carolina Gatorade Player of the Year- 2008

State Champion pitcher- 2007, 2008, 2009; State runner-up pitcher 2006.

Three-time High School State Softball Tournament MVP

Remains #1 in North Carolina's records for Most Shutouts (season), Most Consecutive

Scoreless Innings, Most Consecutive Innings Without an Earned Run, and lowest Career ERA.

Remains in the top five for Career No-Hitters, Consecutive Wins, Career Shutouts, Career Strikeouts, and Season Strikeouts

Remains in the top ten for Most Wins (season and career) and Most Perfect Games (career)

Recorded an unmatched high school career strikeout rate of 2.29 strikeouts per inning pitched.

Inducted 2023



**Karen Dull**  
East Forsyth High School

During her 26 years as East Forsyth's head softball coach, Coach Dull accumulated accolades on a regular basis. Beginning in 1985 in the days of slow pitch, transitioning to fast pitch, and continuing until her retirement in 2011, she was a tremendous coach and mentor for the many young women who played for her. During her coaching career she accumulate seven conference titles and a win-loss record of 357-216. She was also coach of the year six times in her conference and region. East Forsyth High School recently honored her by naming its softball field after her.

She had numerous players go on to play college softball in every division. Prior to high school's 1996 switch to fastpitch, she even had players who were able to transition from the slowpitch game and win spots on college fastpitch rosters.

Coach Dull has also had a big influence on softball in North Carolina beyond her program at East Forsyth. In 2004, she participated in founding the North Carolina Softball Coaches Association and continues to serve as a member of its executive board. She was instrumental in the creation of the association's scholarship program which she continues to manage. To date, she has overseen the awarding of over \$40,000 in scholarships to former high school softball players as they enter college.

Inducted 2023



## **Sarah "Boomer" Mooney**

North Mecklenburg High School/James Madison University/University of South Carolina

Sarah Mooney had an outstanding playing career beginning as a freshman at North Mecklenburg High School in 2008 and continuing through her college years at James Madison University and University of South Carolina. In addition to the highlights listed below, her name remains scattered throughout North Carolina's high school record book in numerous categories. Sarah now resides in Florida and works in healthcare.

### **University of South Carolina (2014-2015)**

Held USC's career record for home runs

Top ten in USC slugging percentage, catcher's assists

Top five in Southeastern Conference's caught-stealing rate and catcher's fielding percentage

### **James Madison University (2012-2013)**

2013 Coastal Athletic Association Player of the Year

2013 First Team All-CAA; NFCA First Team All-Region

2013 ECAC Division I All-Star

2013 Set school records for home runs, RBI's, slugging percentage, and batting average

### **North Mecklenburg High School (2008-2011)**

Two-time Diamond Sports/NFCA National Catcher of the Year

Two-time Louisville Slugger/NFCA First Team All-American

Two-time Louisville Slugger/NFCA First Team All-Region

North Carolina Gatorade Player of the Year

Two-time North Carolina 4A Player of the Year

Four-time All-State

Two-time I-Meck Player of the Year

Set state records for: HR/season, HR/career, BA/season, Consecutive on-base at-bats

Inducted 2023



**David Poplin**  
South Stanly High School

- Record (thru 2024) 365-128
- 2 state championships
- 1 state runner-up
- 3 Western Regional championships
- 1 Western Regional runner-up
- 4 Final Four appearances
- 11 conference championships

Taking over South Stanly's softball program in 2005, Coach Poplin began his tenure as a teacher, mentor, and head softball coach that continues today. Over the years, he has created a notable presence in the world of high school softball in North Carolina.

Despite his school being very small in terms of student enrollment, his 1A program has become one that is never taken lightly by opponents. In fact, teams in all classifications who want to challenge their players with quality opponents, seek to include South Stanly in their schedules. Opponents who travel to South Stanly know they can count on facing great competition at an excellent facility.

Coach Poplin is highly skilled not only at game tactics and reading his opponents, but also teaching his players the nuances of the game and leading them to perform at the highest level possible. Many of his players have gone on to play at the collegiate level. Indeed, college coaches likely keep South Stanly on their radars as a dependable source for quality players.

In 2022, Coach Poplin led his team to the best record in the history of South Stanly softball finishing as state champions at 30-3 for the season while facing one of the strongest schedules in the state (quantified by Max Prep ratings) regardless of classification. This is quite notable because in high school softball in North Carolina, 30-win seasons are extremely elusive, having been achieved over the years by only a tiny handful of coaches.

Inducted 2022



## **Robbie Wray**

Middle Creek High School

Coach Wray joined Middle Creek's softball staff during the new school's first year, working to help build the program from the ground up, then taking over as head coach two years later in 2005. That year, his team bagged the school's first championship in any sport when they took first place in their conference tournament. Three years later his 2008 team made the program's first final four appearance, finishing as North Carolina's 4A Eastern Regional runner-up in a tradition of success that has seen every one of his teams become state playoff qualifiers. He notched his second final four appearance in 2014 as his team again finished as Eastern N. C.'s 4A runner-up.

Coach Wray has also made a big impact beyond his own softball program. Through the years over 90% of his players have achieved academic all-conference honors, a feat greatly influenced by his skill as a mentor and role model. While some of his players have gone on to achieve success as players at the collegiate level, all are now building on their softball experience and demonstrating their worth as successful citizens.

His positive impact has also been felt by North Carolina's entire softball community through sixteen years of energetic participation in the North Carolina Softball Coaches Association. During that time, he served as the organization's president, and was a strong motivator in advancing the quality of NCSCA's programs as well as working to improve the organization's partnership with North Carolina Amateur Sports and the annual State Games High School Softball Showcase tournament.

Coach Wray was inducted into Middle Creek High School's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2013 for the contribution he has made to Middle Creek athletics through his excellence as a teacher, softball coach, and golf coach. Retiring from coaching softball in 2019 he became Middle Creek's athletic director and continued in that role until his retirement from teaching in 2023. Because of his strong desire to continue involvement with high school athletics, he resumed coaching in 2024, taking over as head softball coach at his alma mater, Fuquay-Varina High School.

Inducted 2022



## **Wesley Kidd**

Myers Park, West Stanly, Andrew Jackson (S.C.)

### North Carolina:

- 34 years as a head coach
- 529 career wins (ranks third on the all-time win list)
- 12 conference championships; 12 conference tournament championships
- 12 times conference Coach of the Year
- 5 final eight appearances; 5 final four appearances
- 2-time state runner-up
- 2013 State Champion
- 2011 recipient Homer Thompson Memorial Award

### South Carolina:

- 3 district championships, 1 lower state championship, 1 state runner-up

Coach Kidd has had many accolades in Softball, not to mention his time as a football and girls basketball coach. But all these awards are just a drop in the bucket compared to the influence he has been to his players, school, and community. He has been an outstanding mentor, colleague, and fierce competitor on the field. His teams have always been well prepared, having been taught by one who knows the right way to play. He has always been quick to compliment the play and work ethic of his opponents. He is a true gentleman in our game that anyone can learn from in just a few minutes of talking with him.

Inducted 2022



**Mike Williams**  
Graham High School

- Teacher at Graham High School for 34 years
- Athletic Director for 26 years
- Coached JV and Varsity Basketball for many years
- As of 2019, has coached Softball for 34 years at Graham High School
- Worked as assistant coach at Southern Alamance for four years.

During his many years of coaching, Mike (“Coach Willie”) has won over 420, games and has been ranked in the top 5 in the state of coaches with most games won. In 2015, he was an assistant coach in the North Carolina East/ West Basketball all-star game. He has served numerous times coaching in the North Carolina Powerade State Games all-star softball event, winning gold twice.

Mike has proven himself to be a great asset to high school softball in North Carolina through his long-time involvement in the NCSCA. He is a great advocate for not only his own players at Graham, but for all players throughout his region.

Inducted 2019



## **Derrick Hill**

East Wilkes High School / East Surry High School

- Softball Coach 1999-2013 East Surry; 2016-present East Wilkes
- Record (thru 2018): 359-95 (304-66 at East Surry)
- 6 state championships
- 1 state runner-up
- 5 regional titles
- 8 sectional titles
- 8 conference titles
- 9 conference tournament titles
- 7-time conference Coach of the Year
- The only North Carolina high school softball coach to win 4 consecutive state championships
- Member of Surry County Sports Hall of Fame

Derrick's philosophy, "success is determined by how well the girls do AFTER they leave", is part of what has made him outstanding as a teacher, mentor, and coach. Through his skillful approach during their impressionable years, his students and players typically achieve much success in their later endeavors. Former players have gone on to play softball at the college level at rates seldom seen from small rural high schools such as his.

Derrick's involvement with softball in North Carolina has not been limited to his own program. A founding member of the North Carolina Softball Coaches Association, Derrick served as District 7 chairperson during the organization's early growth and was instrumental in establishing strong support from coaches throughout his region.

Derrick volunteered his assistance during the establishment of the first State Games showcase competition for North Carolina high school softball, serving as Region 7 underclassman and seniors coach during the first four years of that event.

Inducted 2018



**Miranda Ervin Rodriguez      Shaina Ervin Dabbs**

Hopewell High School / NC State University / College Coaches (various) / T2 Softball Training

**Miranda (Catcher)**

- Co-Owner of T2 Softball Training, Burlington, NC
- Drexel University, Head Coach
- Carolina Diamonds NPF League, Assistant Coach
- Queens University, Head Coach
- Team Fiorini Professional Softball (Italy), Player and Assistant Coach

**Shaina (Pitcher)**

- Co-Owner of T2 Softball Training, Burlington, NC
- Georgia Tech, Assistant Coach
- University of Tennessee-Chattanooga, Assistant Coach
- UNC-Greensboro, Assistant Coach

The Ervin twins began their long dedication to softball as a very successful pitcher/catcher battery at North Mecklenburg High School. Moving as juniors to the new Hopewell High School they led the school's softball team to back-to-back North Carolina state championships. Joining NC State University's inaugural softball team, they had a dramatic impact on the new program as they were key in propelling the Wolfpack to its first ACC championship by year three.

After stellar careers as players, Miranda and Shaina devoted their talents to coaching, serving on a variety of staffs at the college level. Today, they have joined forces and created their T2 Softball Training facility and program. T2 Softball, located in Burlington NC, supplies a much-needed resource available to aspiring young softball players.

Inducted 2018



**Gene Poindexter**  
Central Davidson High School

- Softball coach: 2000-2011
- Record: 273-65
- Six consecutive final four appearances
- 3-time state champion
- 2-time state runner-up
- 7 conference championships
- 2008 team finished ranked 5<sup>th</sup> in the nation
- Was voted Conference Coach of the Year 7 times
- Member of Davidson County Sports Hall of Fame
- Founding member of NCSA

Few coaches have had such an impact on their program in so short a time. After taking over the Central Davidson program in 2000, Gene was able to convert what had been an average program into a conference winner by his third season and a state contender by his fifth season. In 2008 his team was one of only two North Carolina high schools to be recognized nationally in fastpitch softball by USA Today/National Fastpitch Coaches Association polling. He has had numerous players go on to be successful college players. At one time or another during his thirty-year teaching career, he also coached football, basketball, baseball, and cross country, as well as serving as the school's athletic director.

In 2013, Gene joined a small group of unique and highly honored individuals in his community when he was inducted into the Davidson County Sports Hall of Fame.

A founding member of the NCSCA, Gene served as its first District 5 chairperson and played a key part in the creation of the first All-State selection process in North Carolina for fastpitch softball. He was the Region 5 and then Seniors State Games head coach during the Powerade State Games' first two years of high school all-star competition.

Inducted 2017



## **Mike Langone**

Northeast Guilford High School

- Schools: Burlington Cummings, Chatham Central, River Mill Academy, Northeast Guilford
- Years with schools:  
Cummings 1987-1993; Chatham Central 2003-2013; River Mill 2014-2018
- Record: Chatham Central 155-51
- NCSCA Member and officer since 2005
- NCSCA President 2013-2017
- Seven time medal winner as a head State Games Softball Coach

Mike has been a moving force in the athletic programs of the four high schools where he has taught and coached during his 36 year career. His time at Burlington Cummings involved him as an assistant coach in three state championship teams. Then, moving to Chatham Central, he guided the Bears' softball program to being a competitive force in their conference including two conference championships and numerous state playoff appearances.

After retiring from Chatham Central, Mike took up the challenge once again and worked to build the softball program at River Mill Academy, before moving to assume head coaching duties at Northeast Guilford High School.

Since its early days, Mike has been an enthusiastic supporter of NCSCA. He recognized early on, that not only does North Carolina high school softball need coaches to sign up and be members, but it also needs members who are willing to roll up their sleeves and jump in to physically help run things. His involvement with the association has included serving as its secretary, then as its president during a time of change and increase in membership. North Carolina high school softball has benefited greatly through his willingness to work as the association's spokesperson with both North Carolina Amateur Sports' State Games and the North Carolina High School Athletic Association.

Inducted 2017



## **Jim Welborn**

Assistant Softball Coach, Central Davidson High School 2001-present

Coach Welborn has been an important part of the North Carolina Softball Coaches Association since he joined as a founding member in 2004. He has been instrumental in the development of the processes that give the organization its ability to consistently carry out its affairs. He continues to be heavily involved in the behind-the-scenes work that takes place but is rarely publicly apparent.

As a member of the Central Davidson high school softball staff, Coach Welborn has been a cornerstone of the continued development of their fastpitch program. Beginning in 2001, Central Davidson softball developed rapidly into a powerhouse that has included three state championships and several final four appearances, as well as winning numerous conference championships. Coach Welborn is a key part of a coaching staff that over the years has developed numerous outstanding players, including several who have been very successful at the college level.

Inducted 2016



## **Billy “Chief” Gerald**

Pitching Coach, North Davidson High School 1996-present  
Founder, San Bill Softball Pitching Academy

During his notable career in the United States Air Force, Chief Gerald participated in military fastpitch softball leagues as much as his spare time would allow. During that time, he learned the art of pitching. After retirement from active duty in 1996, he took a job as ROTC instructor at North Davidson High School. It wasn't long before he was drawn to North Davidson's softball diamond where he began to help out with training the school's pitchers. His military experience, personality, and knowledge of pitching rapidly lead him to become an excellent instructor.

Chief Gerald's love of the game and his desire to teach young people have motivated him to utilize every opportunity to further understand the mechanics of pitching and advance his teaching skills. He has attended countless clinics and developed important contacts throughout the world of fastpitch. Today, he is recognized as one of foremost pitching instructors in the United States. His former students include some of the most well-known and most successful high school pitchers that North Carolina has produced. One can find his current students in starting positions on many high school and middle school teams in the central North Carolina region.

Chief Gerald's efforts at and beyond North Davidson High School have played a very important role in the growth and success of fastpitch softball in North Carolina.

Inducted 2014



## **Buck and Judy O'Shields**

Concerned parents who aggressively pressed for the major changes that led to the switch from slowpitch to fastpitch in North Carolina high school athletics.

- Years of Service: 1989-present
- Residence: Wilmington, NC

Buck and Judy were the driving force behind the inception of an organization known as the North Carolina High School Girls Fastpitch Softball Association. Against formidable odds their group began, fought, and won the battle to bring women's fastpitch softball to high school athletics in the state of North Carolina.

By 1989, North Carolina was one of only two or three states that at the high school level, still played slowpitch softball rather than fastpitch. Colleges all played fastpitch, meaning the opportunity for North Carolina's young women to win scholarships to play college softball essentially did not exist. So Buck and Judy began writing letters and organizing meetings to initiate change.

In the early 1990's, they presented numerous requests with sound justification to the softball rules committee of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association in the face of courteous indifference from the administrators in charge at that time. During 1991-1993 they wrote countless letters and succeeded in getting numerous high school and college coaches involved in their effort. Still the authorities showed no desire to make changes.

In early 1994 they made an appeal to the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights to enlist help under Title IX. In the fall of 1994, fastpitch softball began as an option along with slowpitch in North Carolina high schools. In 1996, NCHSAA eliminated slowpitch in favor of fastpitch.

Today, high school fastpitch in North Carolina has advanced to the forefront of softball as a national sport. Our athletes play the game as well as any in the nation. Thanks to something that Buck and Judy started and pursued with persistence, North Carolina women have the opportunity to compete and can be found on the rosters of college softball teams all across the southeast and the nation.

Inducted 201



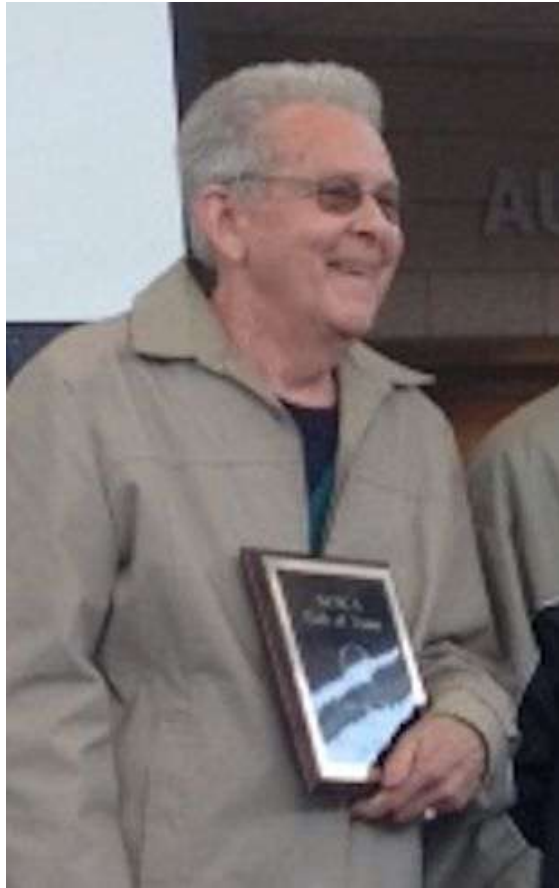
## **Crystal Cox**

Central Cabarrus High School 1999-2002 (player)

- University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill 2003-2006 (player)
- Set numerous state records during her high school career, many of which have not been surpassed
- Career strikeouts: 1455
- Career innings pitched: 747.2
- Career perfect games: 17
- Career no hitters: 37
- Season shutouts: 26
- Pitched 8 perfect games her senior year, a state and national record at the time

Over two decades after her high school career ended, her name remains at or near the top in more than a dozen categories in the North Carolina High School Softball Record Book. To have achieved this level of skill at a time when high school fastpitch in North Carolina was still in its infancy is quite remarkable. Crystal's achievements as a player have now become a set of goals every young pitcher in North Carolina strives to attain. While a tiny handful have reached this elite level, the vast majority have not.

Inducted 2012



**Jimmy Fleming**  
South Granville High School

- 46 years of coaching
- Softball record: 463-36
- 7 state titles
- 19 conference championships
- 178 consecutive wins
- Served on softball coaches advisory committee
- Won 415 games in Men's basketball

Inducted 2012



## **Mike Lovin**

Bunn High School 1980-2004

- Career Record: 322-190
- Four conference championships- 1980, 1981, 1996, 2000
- 1996 team finished 3rd in state playoffs.
- Has coached numerous college signees
- Teams appeared in state playoffs 17 out of 25 years
- Well respected and outstanding ambassador for North Carolina high school softball

Inducted 2012



## **George Daniels**

North Johnston High School

- Mattamuskeet High School 1973-1978; 1981-1984
- North Johnston High School 1984 – 2014
- Combined record of 387 – 264
- 12 Conference Titles since 1997 in 1A and 2A
- 7 Appearances in Final 8
- 2 Appearances in Final 4
- State Runner-up 2005 and 2009
- Founding member of NCSCA

George, an exemplary coach, teacher and person, has the respect and love of his former players, and the respect and admiration of coaches he has mentored and competed against. George is an ambassador for the game of softball and strives to improve his and others experience in the game.

Inducted 2011



**Dan Honeycutt**  
Triton High School

- Coats High School- 10 years 181 - 43
- Triton High School- 5 Years 87 - 21
- Combined Record- 268 - 64
- 11 Conference Championships
- 12 State Playoff Appearances

Dan Honeycutt dedicated his career to help the children of Harnett County receive the best education possible. Mr. Honeycutt was instrumental in starting girl's softball in the Carolina 1 - A Conference in 1974. He started the softball program at Coats and Triton High School. It is certain that the game of softball in Harnett County and North Carolina is better because of the contributions of Dan Honeycutt.

Inducted 2011



## **Frederick "Chip" Adams**

Ashley High School

- Laney High 1994 - 2001 Record of 144 – 21
- Ashley High 2002 – Present(updated and still active 2017) Record of 255-135
- Combined Record of (2017) 399-156
- 8 Conference Championships
- 15 State Playoff Appearances
- 5 Final Four Appearances
- 2 State Runners-up
- 2 State Championships
- Founding member of NCSCA

Over the years, Chip has been a teacher of the game to both players and coaches. He brings a maturity to the game that is greatly needed for the success of softball in the state of North Carolina. The one thing that cannot be overlooked is how much the players respect and love having him as a coach. His ability to have two-way communication with his players extends beyond softball... this is the most important character strength of all.

Inducted 2011



**Gerald Binkley**  
Chatham Central High School

- Years with school: 1977 - present
- 1977-1999 with softball
- Record: 388-136
- Twelve conference championships
- 1987 state runner-up

Gerald has been at Chatham Central since 1977. He was the softball coach from 1977 until 1999. The gymnasium at Chatham Central was named after him. He is greatly respected by past players and opponents.

Inducted 2010



## **Eddie Dees**

South View High School

- Years with school: 25
- Record with school: 538-144
- Fastpitch 266-69
- 18 conference championships
- 23 state playoff appearances
- 11 Elite 8 trips
- 7 Final 4 trips
- 4 Eastern Regional championships
- 1 state title
- 35 former players played in college, 10 currently coaching in college or high school.

Eddie was the softball coach at South View High School for many years. His success as coach was well documented on the field. The impact and relationships with his players has been just as impressive.

Inducted 2010



## **Mike Lambros**

North Davidson High School

- Years with School: 1978 – 2017
- Softball record: 878-110 (North Carolina's all-time winningest coach)
- NFCA Number 1 National Ranking - 2010
- North Carolina state softball champions – 2010, 2017
- Numerous state finals appearances
- 32 conference championships
- Has been involved in sending many players to the next level including players he never coached.
- Started and operated the popular North Davidson Softball Camp for over 20 years. The camp attracted young players ages 5 and up from all over the region.
- Also coached wrestling (14 yrs.), football (10 yrs.), and track (2 yrs.).
- Founding member of NCSCA

Mike was the head softball coach at North Davidson High School from 1978 - 2017. His tenure with the softball program was one of tremendous success with numerous conference championships in addition to his frequent final four appearances at the state level. He was an ambassador for the game of softball in North Carolina and throughout the United States, developing extensive contacts nationwide through his active involvement in both NCSCA and NFCA. Mike was a founding member of NCSCA and was a tremendous motivator in the organization from its founding in 2004 until his untimely passing in 2017. He played a major role in developing NCSCA's partnership with North Carolina Amateur Sports in order to bring about the State Games post season showcase competition for high school softball in North Carolina.

Inducted 2010



**Eddie "Pop" Rivers**  
Forest Hills High School

- Years with School: 1984 – 2014
- Record with School: 388 – 290
- Three Rocky River Conference titles
- One Old Hickory Conference title
- Conference Coach of the Year 5 times
- Union County Coach of the Year 6 times
- 19 players sent to the next level
- Played in 3A championship tournament in 1995
- Founding member of NCSCA and served as its president from 2004 until 2010.
- Current Chairman of the Board of Directors of NCSCA
- Worked to establish an annual coaches clinic for NCSCA
- Worked to establish All-District awards and reestablish All-State awards for North Carolina softball
- Member of All-State selection committee
- Worked to establish the first NCSCA website and coaches poll
- Worked with North Carolina Amateur Sports to bring an all-star game to high school softball
- Assistant coach Region 6 State Games- 2008
- Head coach Region 6 State Games- 2009 (Bronze Medal)
- Assistant coach West All-Star Team- 2010

Eddie "Pop" Rivers was a major driving force behind the establishment of the North Carolina Softball Coaches Association. As the President of the organization from October 2004 to 2010, he has helped create an organization that has been an advocate for young women playing softball in and around North Carolina. Pop was instrumental in getting the State Games to include softball in their annual event, which allows countless girls an opportunity never before given to them. Because of Pop's tireless efforts, NCSCA has been able to give North Carolina high school softball coaches and players a voice recognized throughout the state that helps promote their safety and best interests.

In addition to that work, Eddie headed a successful softball program at Forest Hills High School from 1984 until he retired in 2014.

Inducted 2010



## **Monte Sherrill**

Alexander Central High School

- Schools: Central Cabarrus/Alexander Central
- Years with schools: 1987 – 2015
- Record with both schools: 753 - 60
- Alexander Central – 634-57
- Central Cabarrus – 119-3
- NFCA #1 national ranking in 2014
- 10 4-A state titles
- 26 conference championships
- 3 state runners-up
- 46+ players offered college scholarships
- Coached 10 state MVP's, 24 conference players of the year, and 28 All-Americans
- 2005 & 2014 NFCA National High School Coach of the Year
- Was the only North Carolina high school coach to win state titles at two schools
- Founding member of NCSA

Monte has guided two high schools to phenomenal success with tremendous impact on the young ladies he has coached. He has been an ambassador for the game of softball in North Carolina and the nation. Monte has been selected to speak at numerous clinics for coaches and players. He has been tireless in developing young talent. He ended his high school coaching career in 2015 when he accepted the position of head coach at his alma mater Pfeiffer College.

Inducted 2010