

Martins Ferry High School Athletic Department 'Wall of Honor'



Dwayne 'Bubba' Coleman

"Coach Bubba" spent more than 20 years coaching three sports (football, wrestling and track) for the Purple Riders, primarily at the junior high level but also as a varsity assistant.

Ferry's junior high wrestling tournament was named in his honor – the Dwayne "Bubba" Coleman Junior High Invitational. He was inducted into the Martins Ferry Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2010.

A 1980 graduate of MFHS, he was a lineman on the football team and a thrower in track.

Coleman worked for the Martins Ferry School District for many years in various roles. He passed away in 2010 at age 47.

Joe Gala

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Gala served many roles at Martins Ferry in both coaching and other areas. He served as freshman boys² basketball coach for one year, four seasons as junior varsity coach (58-18 record) and two years as varsity assistant under

Larry Duck. He then served as head coach for six seasons (53-74 record), winning the OHSAA Class AA Sectional title in 1988-89 while finishing with a 14-8 record.

Gala was also head tennis coach for six years, coaching the state-qualifying doubles team of Brad Rinderer and Barry Voytecek.

He was also the Purple Riders' public address announcer at football games for five years and served as yearbook advisor at MFHS for 18 years.

Gala - a graduate of Wheeling Central Catholic (1965) who received his bachelor's degree from West Liberty State College (1971) and master's degree from Marshall University (1976) - later served as an administrator for 13 years at Marysville High School alongside his wife, Becky.

Edmund 'Half Pint' Joseph

A member of one of the most recognizable names in Purple Rider athletic history, "Half Pint" spent time as an assistant basketball and football coach; was head golf coach (1963-67) and the school's athletic director for nearly two decades from the 1970s to the 1990s.

A 1941 MFHS graduate, he was a four-year member of the basketball team, playing on the 1941 Ohio Class A State Championship squad which posted a 27-2 record under Hall of Fame coach Floyd Baker.





Roxie Siburt

A 1966 graduate of Martins Ferry High School and a 1970 product of Ohio University, Siburt spent 42 years as a teacher in the Martins Ferry School District. Her biggest contribution was as a scorekeeper in basketball. She started doing the

girls' varsity book (1991-1995), then for the boys' eighth and ninth grade teams (1995-1997); and has done the boys' varsity book since 1999.

Siburt received the Thomas E. Rataiczak Scorekeeper/Timer Award at OVAC Samuel A. Mumley All-Star Basketball Classic in 2022.

The Martins Ferry High School Athletic Department appreciates the contributions to Purple Rider athletics over the years by these individuals and wishes to recognize them as a part of our athletic history.

