

Alabama Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame



BILLY HOWARD **Class of 2015**

*"In Recognition of a Lifetime of Outstanding Achievement in the game of Baseball.
The State of Alabama will forever be in your debt."*

Prior to completing his college degree in 1972, Coach Billy Howard served in the U.S. Navy for five years, then worked as a fireman while pursuing his college degree to fulfill a life-long dream of becoming a coach. During this time he also volunteered as an assistant coach at B.C. Rain High School in Mobile, AL. to gain experience. After completing his degree in 1972 he began his coaching career at B.C. Rain High School, where he stayed his entire 30-year career, until his retirement in 2002. He served as varsity baseball coach for 26 years, as well as assistant football coach for 30 years.

Choosing to remain in the same community his entire coaching career was an easy decision, especially when you consider that his father helped build the original Trimmier Park Football facility. It was also important to Coach Howard, that like his father, he wanted to be invested in the youth of his community. During his twenty-five year baseball coaching tenure, his record was 385-295. He led his teams to play-off berths in 1976, 1977, 1981, 1987, 1994, 1995 & 1996. In 1977 the Raiders played in the state championship game, losing to Huffman High School.

Coach Howard was selected to coach in the Lions Club East-West All-Star game on four occasions, serving both as an assistant and head coach. He took immense pride in the numerous players of his who went on to play collegiate baseball, as well as the five who played professional baseball. Several of his players became baseball coaches because of his influence and they remain friends with Coach Howard to this day.

After his retirement, the City of Mobile renamed the baseball field "Billy Howard Field at Trimmier Park," while retiring his jersey in honor of his years of service and dedication to the school and community. The honor was especially meaningful considering the years his dad spent creating and maintaining this facility. Saturday, February 14, 2004, was proclaimed "Coach William G. Howard Day" by the Mobile City Councilman Ben Brooks.

Inducted January 16, 2015