

# Alabama Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame



## EDDIE VARNADORE Class of 2019

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

Eddie Varnadore began his baseball coaching career in 1978 at Dora High School. He spent three years as an assistant for Don Flippo before taking over the program in 1981. While leading the Bulldog Baseball Program for eight years, he amassed a record of 149-42 (72%). He led the program to numerous playoff appearances, including an appearance in the 1984 State Championship game. He was named the *Daily Mountain Eagle* Coach of the Year several times during that eight-year run, as well as being named Walker County Coach of the Year four times.

After spending a total of 11 years at Dora High School, he accepted an offer to further his coaching career at Sylacauga High School. Just like in his time at Dora, he coached multiple sports at the high school, including another three-year stint as a baseball assistant. He took over the Aggie baseball program in 1992. During his seven years at the helm of the program, he amassed a record of 180-70 (62%), was named Talladega County Coach of the Year five times, and had several "firsts" both personally and professionally. In the 1997 baseball season, he was able to get his (and the school's) first state championship in baseball. That '97 baseball team would help lead the way for the 1998 squad to win back-to-back state championships. In addition to his teams winning the state championships, he himself was honored to receive several awards. He was the 1997 *Birmingham News* Coach of the Year, the ALABCA 5A Coach of the Year in '97 and '98, and led the AHSAA All-Star Team in the inaugural year of '97. He stepped aside as the head baseball coach of the Aggie program after the '98 season and spent the next 13 years as the Athletic Director at Sylacauga High.

During just 15 years as a head baseball coach, in addition to winning two state championships, he was a nine-time area champion, seven-time state quarter-finalist, five-time state semi-finalist, and state runner-up. He accumulated an overall record of 329-112 (66%), averaged over 21 wins a year, and saw many of his former players go on to further their careers both collegiately and professionally. Seventeen of his players received college scholarships, while three of his former players, Robert Averette, Kennon McArthur, and Ehren Wasserman, would go on to play professionally.

The Prattville, Alabama native graduated from Stanhope Elmore High School in 1973 and went to the University of Montevallo, where he received both his Bachelor's of Science in Education and Master's of Education degrees.

**Inducted January 18, 2019**