

Alabama Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame



RAY WALKER Class of 2020

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

Ray Walker began his teaching and coaching career in 1968 at Chapman Junior High School, located in Huntsville, Alabama. He taught biology and physical education, while coaching baseball, football & basketball. During his tenure as the Head Freshman Football Coach, his team won 102 games and eight city championships.

In 1975, Walker transferred to Grissom High School to become a driver education instructor. He took on two head coaching positions: baseball and freshman football. He would remain in these positions until 2000, when he would retire from coaching.

While serving twenty-five years as Grissom High School's Head Baseball Coach, his teams compiled a record of 489 wins and only 285 losses. Sixty-eight of the players from his program went on to play at the college level and three would go into the Minor Leagues. In total, his teams won nine city championship titles and advanced to the Final Four during the State Baseball Playoffs in 1982 and 1991. Then in 1989, his Grissom High Baseball team won the 6A State Baseball Championship by winning 34 games while losing only 4. That year, his team earned the titles of City Champs, Area Champs, and State Champs. Walker was chosen as Huntsville City Coach of the Year in baseball several times throughout his tenure. He was chosen as Coach of the Year in the state of Alabama in 1989. During the last twenty years of his baseball coaching career at Grissom High School, his team made the state playoffs eighteen times. He was inducted into the Huntsville Madison County Sports Hall of Fame in 2004.

Walker was born in 1946 in Anniston, Alabama. At the age of two, his family moved to Huntsville. He was in the first graduating class at Lee High School, in 1964, where he participated in baseball, football, and basketball. Upon graduation, he attended William Carey College for one year and then transferred to Florence State (UNA) where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1968, and later from Athens State College, in 1970, with a master's degree in physical education/school administration. Walker served in the Army Reserve from 1970 until 1998 and retired with the rank of Master Sergeant.

Inducted January 17, 2020