

TROJAN HALL OF FAME 2012 INDUCTEES



John Ratko

John began his teaching and coaching career at Fife High School in 1963. An avid local historian, he had his Social Science students research Fife's history. John also helped coach the 1967 State Champion football team. At the age of 29, John became the first assistant-principal of Fife High School and became principal two years later. After 10 years as Fife High's principal, he transferred to Surprise Lake Middle School as its principal. John retired in June of 1993 after 30 years of service to the Fife School District and the Fife-Milton community.



Jan (Sessler) Kirk

Jan graduated in the Class of 1959. She was Class Secretary, Homecoming Queen, and voted Most Athletic her senior year. Jan returned to Fife High School in 1987 to coach volleyball. In 23 years of coaching volleyball for Fife, the Trojan teams won 19 League titles, 15 District titles, and 4 State championships. When Jan retired in 2010, the Trojans had not lost a League match since 2005 – they had not lost a set in her final 3 years. Jan has become a legend among volleyball coaches and her Fife Trojans won more matches than any other high school ever has in the state.



Mike Kelley, Sr

Mike graduated in the Class of 1960 and has been an active and tireless alum ever since. He helped his father establish Fife Sand & Gravel in 1958 and has used his knowledge and resources to help the community in any way possible. Mike served 20 years in the Fife-Milton Active 20-30 Club, has represented Fife in the Daffodil Festival since 1985, and was Daffodil Festival President in 1998. In 2000, Mike was elected to the Fife City Council and was Mayor from 2002 until 2008. Mike has volunteered countless hours in and around the community to build projects like the Milton War Memorial and restore the Dacca Barn.



Mady (Petersen) Murrey

Mady graduated in the Class of 1977 and represented Fife High as your Daffodil Princess. She studied nursing at Seattle University and received her Masters from the University of Washington. Mady has spent over 30 years in pediatric nursing and serves as the Chief Operating Officer at MultiCare Mary Bridge Children's Hospital. She recently received the VHA West Coast Passion Award, the Authentic Leader Award from the NW Organization of Nurse Executives, and has been recognized as a Distinguished Alum from the UW School of Nursing. Mady is a committed community volunteer and serves as a reading mentor, Sunday school teacher, and youth sports coach. Mady also serves on the Children's Museum of Tacoma Board. She and her husband, Lonny, have their 4th child attending Fife schools.



Fred Swendsen

Fred graduated with the Class of 1968. He played on the 1967 State Champion football team and still holds the Washington State High School Class 1A discus record of 178'6". Fred earned a full scholarship to play football at Notre Dame where he started at defensive end for 3 years. Fred played in the Cotton Bowl twice and was drafted by the Buffalo Bills of the National Football League. After the NFL, Fred returned home to start a successful chiropractic clinic. He has been serving patients in the Fife/Puyallup area for over 29 years.

PRIDE FOR A LIFETIME