

## **Mark Johnson**

Born August 8, 1945, in Fon du Lac, Wisconsin

High School; Las Vegas Robertson 1963

College: University of New Mexico

Bachelor's Science and Physical Education 1967

Masters of Recreation and Physical Education 1971

### **High School**

- 1960-1962 Football
- 1961-1963 baseball – centerfield and pitcher
- 1962-1963 Basketball – Forward
- 1962 Named to the Consensus All-State High School Football Team as a quarterback. The All-State team was selected by sports writers, coaches, and sportscasters.
- 1962 University of New Mexico Top State 33
- 1963 Named the school's "Outstanding Athlete" for the 1962-1963 school year based on his athletic ability, scholastically standing, and sportsmanship.
- 1963 Played quarterback for the North football team in the senior North-South All-Star game.
- 1963 Robertson High School's Wall of Fame
- Member of the Key Club.
- Member of Student Council
- Member of Future Teachers of America

### **College**

- 1964-1967 University of New Mexico baseball team
- 1965 Honorable Mention All-Western Athletic Conference southern division outfielder. The only Lobo on the WAC All-Conference teams.
- 1966 Drafted by the Los Angeles Dodgers in Round 51, the 803 pick, but stayed to play one more year.
- 1966 .300 hitter; 255 errorless ball innings; led the team in doubles (11).
- 1967 All-NCAA Region outfielder
- 1967 All-Western Athletic Conference southern division outfielder
- 1967 Led the team in RBIs – 33.
- 1967 Signed a contract of play for the New York Mets organization.

## Professional

- Three years playing professional baseball in the New York Mets organization.
  - 1967 Mankota Mets (Minnesota) Class A
  - 1968 & 1969 Visalia Mets (California) Class A
- Head baseball coach at Texas A&M and Sam Houston State University, amassed a 1,043-564-3 (.649) record.
- One Super Regional appearance
- Thirteen NCAA regional appearances
- Ten NCAA Regional final games
- Sixteen Big 12 and Southwest Conference tournament appearances
- Four 50-plus winning seasons and thirteen 40-plus winning seasons.
- Johnson had 108 players drafted to play professionally.
- 93 percent of his student athletes graduated.
- 1969 Student Teaching at Albuquerque High School with Hall of Famer, Jim Hulsman.
- 1970 Taught at Mission Elementary (Albuquerque, New Mexico).
- 1969-1971 Assistant baseball coach for the University of New Mexico. This teaching and coach job
- 1971-1976 Assistant baseball coach for the University of Arizona
  - 1976 NCAA Baseball Champions
  - Recreation and Physical Education Instructor
- 1976-1982 Assistant baseball coach for Mississippi State
- 1982-1984 Assistant baseball coach for Texas A&M
- 1985-2005 Head Baseball Coach for Texas A&M
  - The winningest coach in Texas A&M baseball history 876-431-3.
  - Led Texas A&M to two College World Series appearances and 13 NCAA playoffs.
  - 1986 Southwest Conference Regular Season and Tournament Champions
  - 1989 Southwest Conference Regular Season and Tournament Champions ... including a school-record 58-7. They finished the season ranked #2 nationally and with the top NCAA top winning percentage.
  - 1993 Southwest Conference Regular Season Champions
  - 1993 NCAA Regionals Champions
  - 1993 College World Series Appearance
  - 1998 Big 12 Conference Champions
  - 1999 Big 12 Conference Champions
  - 1999 NCAA Regionals Champions
  - 1999 College World Series Appearance
  - 2004 NCAA Regionals Champions
  - Coached 11 First Team All-Americans

- 61 All-Conference players
- 2007-2011 Head Baseball Coach for Sam Houston State
  - Recreation and Physical Education Instructor
  - 2007 Southland Conference Champions and NCAA Tournament appearance.
  - 2008 Southland Conference Champions and NCAA Tournament appearance.
  - 2009 Southland Conference Champions and NCAA Tournament appearance.
  - In his first 4 years at Sam Houston, his Bearkats had set 26 school records.
  - Produced 7 Academic All-Southland players
- Coached his 1,000th career win during his fourth season with the Bearkats on March 8, 2010. He was the 44th head baseball coach to pass 1,000 career wins.
- 1991 Selected as an assistant coach for the USA National Baseball team that competed and medaled in the Pan American Games in Havana, Cuba.
- 1999, he was the head coach for the USA National team.
- Co-authored three books published by the ABCA.
- Featured speaker at events across the country for Speakers of Significance. The speakers are a group which are passionate about life, leadership, and encouraging people. Mark's talks have the desire to captivate, motivate, and inspire his audience.

## **Honors**

- 1986 Southwest Conference Coach of the Year
- 1986 American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) Regional Coach of the Year.
- 1989 Southwest Conference Coach of the Year
- 1993 Southwest Conference Coach of the Year
- 1993 ABCA Regional Coach of the Year.
- 1997-98 Student Athlete Advisory Committee Coach of the Year
- 1998 Big 12 Conference Coach of the Year
- 1998 ABCA Regional Coach of the Year.
- 1999 Big 12 Conference Coach of the Year
- 1999 ABCA Regional Coach of the Year.
- 1999 Sporting News National Coach of the Year
- 1999 United States Olympic Committee Coach of the Year
- 2001 Inducted into the American Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame.
- 2002 Inducted into the Texas Baseball Hall of Fame.
- 2003 Big 12 Conference Coach of the Year
- 2006 University of New Mexico Athletics Hall of Honor Inductee

- 2006 Round Rock Express Lifetime Achievement Award
- 2007 Fellowship of Christian Athletes Baseball “Jerry Kindall Character in Coaching” Award, which is presented annually to the college or high school baseball coach who best exemplifies the Christian principles of character, integrity, serving, teamwork, and excellence on and off the baseball field.
- 2009 Honored with the ABCA Ethics in Coaching Award (Inaugural Recipient)
- 2011 Honored by Texas A&M at Olsen Field by retiring his No. 7 jersey on putting it on the right field wall.
- 2012 Inducted into the Texas A&M Letterman’s Hall of Fame.
- 2012 Inducted into the Texas A&M Athletic Hall of Fame.
- 2012 the Lefty Gomez Award, which is ABCA’s highest honor. This award is presented by ABCA and Wilson Sporting Goods each year to an individual who has distinguished himself amongst his peers and had contributed significantly to the game of baseball locally, nationally, and internationally.
- 2013 Inducted into the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Hall of Champions
- 2014 Inducted into the Texas Sports Hall of Fame
- 2014 Inducted into the Southwest Conference Hall of Fame
- 2015 Recognized as Southeastern Conference "Baseball Legend" for impactful career.
- 2023 University of New Mexico Alumni Chapter Award

## **Community**

- 1994 president of the 6,000 member American Baseball Coaches Association ... 56 years
  - 1994 President
  - 2013-2018 Chairman of ABCA Board of Directors. There have been only ten Chairmans since 1983, when the ABCA Board of Directors was formed as the governing body of the association.
  - 2018 – present Serves on their Board of Directors.
- Participated faithfully for 41 years of his baseball coaching career in Fellowship of Christian Athletes.
  - Served as a guest speaker at many FCA events.
  - Worked as the head baseball clinician at FCA camps.
  - Serves on the Board of Directors of the Brazos Valley Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

## **Family**

- Married to his high school sweetheart, Linda on August 4, 1967, in Tucumcari, New Mexico. She is the Executive Director of the Brazos Valley CPA Chapter and Treasurer of Celebration Women’s Ministry, Inc., a state and national women’s ministry.
- Two sons, Ron and Brian, both played baseball for their father at Texas A&M between 1990 to 1994. Both received the “Male Academic Athlete of the Year” before graduating from Texas A&M.
  - Ron and his wife Beth have three children – Darby, Riley, and Zak.

- Brian and his wife Jill have two children – Taylor and Luke 22.
- One great grandchild Winter Rose.