

ROBERT A. "BOBBY" GIBBS

Bobby Gibbs' name in Albuquerque and throughout the State of New Mexico, in athletics and recreation is legendary, because of his unselfish and untiring devotion to young people. Born in Madrid, New Mexico and educated in Albuquerque he received his first taste of athletics playing football and basketball at St. Mary's High School under "Babe" Parenti, a 1974 ASHOF inductee.

Those experiences whet his appetite for what he would give back to our community and state. He and many of his colleagues at St. Joseph's College (Henry Sanchez, Jim Hulsman, Ron Tybor, Louie Yannoni, Vince Cordova, Kiki Saavedra, just to name a few teammates) were influenced greatly by their former coach, Dr. Rudy Cordova, himself a 1999 ASHOF inductee. The aforementioned St. Joe's alumni have had a tremendous positive impact in the lives of people they have touched.

Bobby, after being an assistant football coach for Bill Gentry and assistant basketball coach for Mickey Miller and Tom Hogg at Highland High School, left athletics to become the Executive Director of the Albuquerque Boys and Girls Clubs in 1970. He served in that capacity for the next 28 years. In 1974, he also assumed the position and responsibilities as the Executive Secretary of the New Mexico High School Coaches Association. The dedication and service he has provided this organization has resulted in him receiving many awards and honors. He has been inducted into the National High School Athletics Coaches Association Hall of Fame, the New Mexico High School Coaches Hall of Honor; received the National High School Athletic Coaches Association Distinguished Service Award, the New Mexico Activities Association Distinguished Service Award and the ASHOF Board of Directors honored him with their Distinguished Service Award. Besides his love and devotion for his wife, Ginny, his family, and his work, Bobby is a regular on the tennis court, and reputed to be the most loyal and devoted fan of the Notre Dame Fighting Irish in the State of New Mexico.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Assistant football and basketball coach at Highland High School and taught US History from 1963-1970
- Recreation supervisor at Wells Park Community Center for the City of Albuquerque Parks and Recreation Department from 1957-1970 (summer employment)
- Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Albuquerque from 1970-1999
- Served as Executive Secretary/Treasurer of the New Mexico High School Coaches Association since 1974
- Founded, organized, and administered the first juvenile and adult summer basketball program for the City of Albuquerque
- Founded and organized the first youth developmental basketball program in the City of Albuquerque which started in 1972
- Founded and organized the first girls summer high school basketball program in the City of Albuquerque
- Instrumental in opening of the Rio Rancho Boys and Girls Clubs of Albuquerque, spearheading the fundraising and construction
- Instrumental in bringing the NHSACA National Conference to Albuquerque in 1983 and served as chairman
- Was presented the Notre Dame Club of New Mexico Community Service Award in 1996
- As Executive Secretary/Treasurer, the NMHSCA under his leadership and guidance has had continuing growth in membership, initiated many new benefit and awards programs, and sponsors 16 All-Star games in 8 different cities around the state