



CLASS OF 2022 INDUCTEE



CHERYL JOHNSON

Cheryl Johnson ... "I've wanted to be a teacher and coach since fourth grade. I've just thought it would be fun."

Cheryl spent 31 years in APS education as a physical education teacher, volleyball, basketball, and softball coach, assistant principal, principal, and athletic director. Cheryl's integrity, demeanor, enthusiasm, and classy example of how you coach and react in the heat of competition set her apart from so many others.

"She is cool under pressure and she's a winner." Longtime Mustang baseball coach, Tim McCorkle said when Cheryl was named the Athletic Director at West Mesa High School

She is best known as a softball coach, taking her teams five times to the state finals at three different schools, West Mesa High School, La Cueva High School, and Volcano Vista High School. She won state softball titles in 2005 with Las Cueva High School and at Volcano Vista in 2011 and 2012. During the 2011 and 2012 season the Hawks had a state best fifty-two game winning streak.

Cheryl, a Manzano High School graduate in 1976, was a three-year letterman in volleyball, basketball, and softball. The Monarchs won state volleyball in 1975 and were the softball state runner-up in 1976.

She attended New Mexico State on a scholarship to play softball. In 1978, she transferred to University of New Mexico to play on the school's first softball team. The softball team went to the NAIA National's Sweet 16 in 1979. Softball was not a sport in the NCAA. She earned a golden glove at second base and was one of the best hitters ever for UNM, still ranks fourth in a career (10) and fifth in a season (6) for triples.

After graduating, she played for 10 years in the city softball leagues and won a state title.

Her first coaching job was in 1979-1980 as an assistant coach in volleyball, basketball, softball for Sandia High School Coach Ann "Weegie" Poston. One year later, she became the head basketball coach for West Mesa High School.

From 1990 to 1993, she coached the West Mesa softball team to four district championships. Those teams placed in State fourth, third and two runners-up.

Cheryl went into Albuquerque Public School administration from 1993-2001. She returned to teaching and coaching softball from 2002 until 2007.

Cheryl also excelled in racquetball, playing in the state age group com-

