



CLASS OF 2021 INDUCTEE



HERB STINSON

Coach Herb Stinson graduated from Aztec High School in 1970, where he was a member of the National Honor Society, FTA, marching band, served as Senior Class President and lettered in football, wrestling and track. In 1969, he played right guard on the State Runners-up football team under Coach Marty Steffan, earning All County and All State honors. In wrestling, he qualified for state three times, placing twice, and the team placed 3rd in State in 1969. It was during Herb's sophomore year that he decided to become a teacher and coach, inspired by the example set by his coach, Jerry Parker.

In 1970, Herb attended Dixie State College and coached wrestling at Dixie High School. He wrestled at the YMCA in Las Vegas, NV under legendary coach, Jerry Wager, winning the Nevada Freestyle Open and representing them in an AAU international tournament, placing 5th in Greco. In 1971 after receiving a wrestling scholarship, he transferred to SUCS now known as Southern Utah University. He was a two-time RMAC Regional place winner under Coach Joe Lapour, graduating in 1975 with a bachelor's degree in social science and PE. He was inducted into the SUU Coaching Hall of Fame in 2001.

After returning to NM, Herb was hired in Aztec in 1976 where he taught and coached football, wrestling and baseball for 24 years. He led the Tigers to 12 wrestling State Championships, 11 of them in a row. He was the NM Coach of the Year seven times, National Coach of the Year three times and inducted into the NHSCA Hall of Fame in 2016. He retired in 2000 and then taught and coached in Bayfield, CO for the next 12 years, returning to Aztec in 2012 where he still coaches wrestling. As of 2022, he has helped the team win five more State Championships. To date and counting, he has coached 69 individual State Champions and 19 All Americans. Coach Stinson is known for saying "Winning is a state of mind. What state of mind do you have?"

Coach Stinson and his wife, Terry, reside in Aztec, NM. He has three grown children, five grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and a goddaughter.

