

## Dale Bruns

Class of 1963 - Adrian High School



Dale was born on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1945 in Adrian MN to Harm and Edna Bruns. He was oldest of three brothers. He grew up on a farm near Rushmore, in southwest Minnesota. Dale helped out his parents on their farm whenever he could and gained a strong work ethic in the process.

Dale graduated from Adrian High School. He played football, basketball, and baseball for the Dragons. Dale played both running back and linebacker for the football team. In his 3 years of High school football, his team was undefeated. He was a 3 year letter winner in baseball. He played pitcher and shortstop.

Dale met his future wife Kathy Egan while they were in high school. When they graduated, Dale attended St. Cloud State and pursued a Bachelor's degree in education while Kathy pursued a degree in nursing.

Dale and Kathy got married in June of 1968. Dale landed a job teaching political science and social studies in Holdingford and the couple moved there before school started. Dale and Kathy had two sons, Jason & Paul, who both attended Holdingford High School. Dale taught full time for Holdingford until 1999. He was teacher of the year in 1994-1995. He continues to substitute teach for Holdingford.

Dale jumped right into coaching his first year in Holdingford. He enjoyed sports and wanted to share his enthusiasm with the student athletes. He started as the Assistant baseball coach from 1969-1970. Dale took over as Head baseball coach for the Huskers in 1971. He remained the head baseball coach through the 1996 season. As the head baseball coach, Dale had an overall record of 297 wins and only 170 losses. Under his tenure, the Husker's won 8 conference championships. He was honored with the CMC coach of the year in 1991. Dale continued on as an assistant coach for Husker baseball from 1997-2016. He volunteered his time to coach for Babe Ruth baseball for 20 years.

Dale was an assistant football coach from 1968-2010. As an assistant football coach, the Huskers had 9 state tournament appearances. The Holdingford Huskers were the State Champions in 1981 and runner up in 1973. Dale was voted the CMC Assistant Coach of the year in 1981 and 1996-97. Dale continues to volunteer his time to the football program today.

Dale's service didn't stop when the games and practices were over. Dale has been and continues to be active in our community. He has participated in Community Service organizations, the Lions Club, Youth baseball, Booster club, Meals on Wheels and All Saints Catholic church. Dale was the head coach for the Holdingford Express Amateur baseball team from 1998-2005. The Express had 2 appearances in the State baseball tournament, winning the championship for class "C" in 2005.

Since his retirement, Dale and Kathy enjoy spending time with the "Love of their lives"-their 6 grandchildren. He attends as many of the grandchildren's events as he can. Dale spends many summer days with family and friends at the lake, on the pontoon or fireside. Dale and Kathy have enjoyed traveling with friends.

As a coach, the years of service, his record, and his accomplishments speak for themselves. There is a saying that "a good coach can change a game, a great coach can change a life". The most important thing to Dale would be the lives of the student athletes that he was blessed to impact. To this day, Dale loves being a part of the Holdingford Husker community and bleeds Husker green. For all his service to the Husker community, tonight we tip our hats to Dale. Here's to extra innings!!