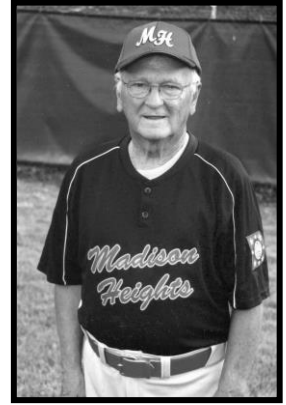


CHARLES HUBBARD

Growing up in Madison Heights in the Depression and war years did not afford Charles Hubbard much opportunity for participation in sports activities. With work being a vital commodity in a family comprising seven boys and four girls, Charles was called upon to help support the family.

His interest in sports was there, and baseball was the primary game in Amherst County in the mid-twentieth century. He began to contribute to the development of at least 500 players in more than 4 decades of service as a coach in the Madison Heights Dixie Youth Baseball program. After starting as an assistant coach for the Dodgers, with his brother as head coach, he later became head coach and remained with 8-, 9-, and 10-year-olds more than four decades.



Affectionately known to all as “Chili”, he not only taught the love of the game to these many players, but also to all those who then helped his teams as assistant coaches. He was an ambassador for the game, practiced a hands-on approach to coaching and teaching, and worked tirelessly to put the players, not the coaches, in the limelight. Both he and his assistants knew that their reason for being there was for the players, not for personal gain. He excelled in getting others involved in the program, and maintained good relationships with the parents.

His Dixie Youth teams won three district championships, and made one state play-off appearance. The other two championships were prior to the existence of a state play-off system.

As his own two children, Vicky and Jody, attended Amherst County High School, he quickly became a fixture at Lancer football, basketball, and baseball games, arriving early to stake out his favorite seat. He has continued that practice since that time. This support extended to many away games, as well.

As a pioneer in the foundation of Dixie Youth Baseball, Charles “Chili” Hubbard has witnessed much growth and change in the organization, but some things remain the same: the fact that it is there for the participants, and that the coaches’ job is to instill the traits of leadership, sportsmanship, and teamwork as the young people develop as baseball players. Manifold rewards have been returned to him in the form of his becoming a revered icon in the memories of these now-grown-up “kids” who have gone on to high levels of achievement in every endeavor imaginable – including one player in this year’s Hall of Fame induction class, his nephew and former major leaguer, Mike Hubbard.

Charles Henry Hubbard – August 5, 1935

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Coaching: Baseball – 8-, 9-, 10-yr.-olds, 44 years (1970-2013); 3 district championships, one state playoff appearance; more than 15 league championships; All-Star teams (numerous); coached more than 500 players, one future Major Leaguer.
- ACHS: Supporter – 40 years