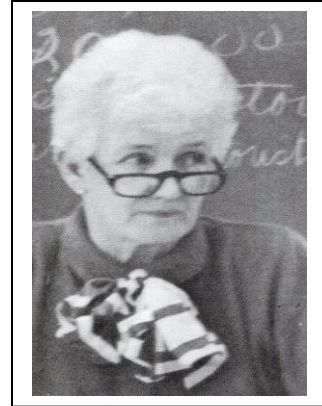


EVELYN HARVEY

Evelyn Harvey was the product of a farming family in Campbell County, Virginia. She was probably first introduced to the competitive world of sports through childhood experiences on the farm with her two brothers. Early sports involvement included participation in recreational bowling and softball leagues.

After graduating from Gladys High School in a class of seven, Evelyn's college years and teaching career were interwoven, as she accepted a teaching position in Campbell County while still in college. She earned both a bachelor's and master's degree from Lynchburg College. Her coaching experience began with the basketball team at William Campbell High School.



In 1966, she accepted a position at ACHS, and launched what would become a successful career that covered more than two decades as teacher and coach. Up until that point, the only sport available to girls was basketball. Although a softball team – with an unofficial coach, and no uniforms, special equipment, transportation, or officials – played a few games against neighboring schools in the mid-'60s, the first team with VHSL sanctions was organized in the early 1970s. During the 1970s and '80s, ACHS changed classification and districts several times, from AA to AAA and back again, and records are sparse.

The 1970s brought numerous changes to the world of public education, with full racial integration of the schools and the advent of more extracurricular opportunities for girls. Evelyn sponsored cheerleading, and coached both volleyball and softball. She was the first paid softball and volleyball coach at ACHS. She even was instrumental in introducing competitive gymnastics for a short time.

Harvey's teams were characterized by a consistently high level of play and reflected their coach's competitive spirit and drive. By the 1980s, both her softball and volleyball teams were regular contenders for district championships, and were often involved in regional and state play-offs. Two softball teams were state finalists.

Her summers were generally filled with coaching sessions with the county recreation department in several activities, including the newly-emerging tennis program. She continued a lifelong love of sports with participation in tennis and golf.

Evelyn Harvey served as a pioneer in the early years of an emerging girls' sports program at Amherst County High School. Girls who now participate in the vast world of athletics must acknowledge that they are "standing on the shoulders of giants", those teachers and coaches who paved the way through years of diligence to afford these opportunities.

Evelyn DeJarnette Harvey -- February 17, 1928 - May 6, 2005

Career Highlights

- ACHS: built competitive programs in softball and volleyball
- Softball, 1985 – undefeated season, AAA Western District champions
- Softball and Volleyball, 1988-89 – AAA Western District champions
- Coach of the Year, Volleyball – 1976
- State Finalist, Softball – two teams
- All Star selections – many