

LYNN ALLEN CANNON

Lynn Allen spent her youth in Madison Heights in the 1960s working with horses, and became active in the Amherst County 4-H horse program, under the leadership of Jesse Ford, Jinx Washington Sykora, and Ellen Craig. She accumulated a significant number of awards in local, district, and state competitions.



In the absence of a county youth sports program, she helped fulfill her father's desire to make baseball players of his five daughters, with family games on Sunday afternoons. She credits Hall of Fame Coaches Evelyn Harvey and Barbara Wood with developing her athletic skills and interest in new sports. Heading for college in Tennessee, she and Hall of Famer Connie Franklin, as roommates, were launched into their lives in sports, with Lynn becoming a highly successful high school volleyball coach.

Allen has spent her career in White County, Tennessee, where she took volleyball teams to numerous district championships, and appearances in regional and state competitions, amassing more than 650 wins. She entered her teams in every weekend tournament she could schedule, playing matches as many as five days per week, even with competitions in the surrounding states. Her commitment to the team included not only coaching the players, but also scheduling the matches, administering an annual tournament, and even driving the team bus.

Lynn Allen Cannon sent a dozen volleyball players, including her daughter, to the college ranks. After 31 years of teaching elementary special education, she continues to stay active on the farm in Tennessee with horses and cattle, and enjoys frequent tennis matches with friends.

Lynn Kay Allen Cannon – January 6, 1955

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Youth: Amherst County 4-H horse program – district and state awards, 4-H Virginia State Congress (voting delegate, 1973), Virginia 4-H Showmanship Class (top 10), State Horse Judging Team (alternate)
- Amherst County High School: Basketball (1971-73) – undefeated season (1973); Volleyball – (1971-73), Lynchburg area tournament champion; Track (1971-73) – high jump, 220, 440, discus, shot put, regional team championship, team third place (state)
- College: East Tennessee State University – Volleyball (1973); Basketball (1974); Tennessee Tech University – Volleyball (1976, 1977)
- Coaching: Doyle Elementary School, Basketball (1979-82) – county championship, boys' (3), girls' (1); Volleyball – White County High School, Sparta, TN (23 years), match wins (more than 650), winning seasons (20), district championships (7), regional championships (6), regional finalist (4), state tournament (5), third-place finish in state (1994, 2003), East/West All-Star game (3), players in East/West All-Star game (8)
- Officiating: High School Volleyball (2010-11)
- Senior Volleyball: Player (7 years), Tennessee Senior Olympics, National Senior Olympics (2)
- Awards: District Coach of the Year (8); TSSAA Coach of the Year (1999-2000); A.F. Bridges Sportsmanship Award (1999-2000); White County Sports Hall of Fame (2007)