



Coach Charles Heatly

March 14, 1934 - October 17, 2018

Charles K. Heatly, 84, passed away at his home in Lindsay on October 17, 2018, following a short illness.

Charlie was born March 14, 1934, in Mangum, Oklahoma, to Elmo Joe and Daisy Mae (Post) Heatly. He graduated from Reed High School, and received undergraduate and master's degrees from the University of Central Oklahoma. Charlie married the former Sheneesta Baker on April 22, 1955. Following two years of coaching high school baseball and girls' and boys' basketball at Carter, Oklahoma, Charlie moved to Lindsay, Oklahoma in 1959 and began an unprecedented period of success coaching girls' basketball for 28 seasons until his retirement in 1987. He also simultaneously coached the Lindsay boys' basketball teams from 1965 to 1971.

His girls' teams at Lindsay won 669 games in his 28 seasons. They appeared in 17 state tournaments, winning the state championship twice and finishing as runners-up three times. Thirty-three of his players were recognized with All-State honors during his tenure at Lindsay.

His boys' teams at Lindsay won 146 games in his seven seasons, and appeared in the state tournament in his final season in 1971. Two players on his boys' teams earned All-State honors.

Charlie was on the founding board of directors of the Oklahoma Girls Basketball Coaching Association in 1963, and served as either chairman or chairman emeritus until his death. The top coaching award presented annually by the association bears his name.

In 1971, Charlie began the Lindsay All-Star Girls Basketball Camps. During the next 25 years, over 50,000 girls attended these summer camps. At their peak, the camps were attracting over 3,000 girls each year. At various times during this period, camps were also held in Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Tennessee and Alaska in addition to the camps in Lindsay.

Charlie was named the Oklahoma girls' coach of the year in 1967 and the national girls' coach of the year in 1981. He was chosen to coach in the Oklahoma girls' All-State game in 1967 and the boys' All-State game in 1970. He was inducted into the halls of fame of the Oklahoma Girls Basketball Coaches Association, the Oklahoma Coaches Association and the National High School Coaches Association. He was honored in 1993 as a Distinguished Former Student of the University of Central Oklahoma. In 2005, during the Women's Basketball Coaches Association's convention held in conjunction with the NCAA Women's Final Four, Charlie received the prestigious Jostens-Berenson Service Award in recognition of his lifelong commitment of service to the game of women's basketball.

From 1990 until 2014 when he turned 80 years old, Charlie played the music for the Oklahoma City sessions of the state high school basketball tournament at the State Fairgrounds Arena.

Charlie was greatly loved and admired by his entire family. He considered himself to be truly blessed to have had the love, caring and support for over 63 years from the love of his life, his wife Sheneesta.

Charlie was a friend and mentor to countless coaches in Oklahoma and across the country. His friendships with fellow coaches during and after his active coaching career were some of the great pleasures of his life.

His players learned not just basketball skills, but valuable life skills that would benefit them immeasurably in their adulthood. The admiration and respect he earned from his players continued to grow long after their playing days, and his relationships with his former players were cherished by him his entire life. Charlie was preceded in death by his parents.

Surviving are his wife, Sheneesta, of the home; one sister, Patsy Nippert and

her husband Merlin of Mangum, Oklahoma; one son, Danny Heatly and his wife Dana of Norman, Oklahoma; one daughter, Tracy Mrasek and her husband Mike of Keller, Texas; four grandchildren and their spouses, Jordan and Leigh Heatly of Papillion, Nebraska; Jeremy McConnell of Norman, Oklahoma; Taylor and Dane Riggs of Norman, Oklahoma, and Alex Leese and Krystan Holybee of Fort Worth, Texas. Also surviving are three great-grandchildren, Tessa and Freya Heatly of Papillion, Nebraska and Grayson Leese of Fort Worth, Texas.

A Funeral Service to honor the life of Charles will be held on Sunday, October 21st at 2 p.m. at the Charles K. Heatly Arena at Lindsay High School. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Lindsay Schools Scholarship Fund, 800 W. Creek, Lindsay, OK 73052.

Services are under the direction of Scott & Angel Wilbourn of Boydston-Wilbourn Funeral Home in Lindsay, Oklahoma. Condolences may be made to the family online at www.boydstonfuneralhome.com

To send a flower arrangement to the family of Coach Charles Heatly, please click [here](#) to visit our Sympathy Store.

Tribute Wall

EM

“ I am very sorry for your loss. My heart goes out to you in this difficult time. I know it’s hard to go through this pain, but I hope you may find comfort in knowing that God cares about how you feel and that He promises that “there is going to be a resurrection.” (Acts 24:15) (1 Peter 5:7) Won’t that be wonderful to see our loved ones again! If you would like to learn more about this hope, feel free to visit JW.org.

Emily - October 25, 2018 at 01:08 PM

DF

“ We are so sorry for you and your family. Coach was a great guy; but you know that. He was always friendly to everyone he met. We know that you’re sad; but we know that the Lindsay folks will continue to support you! Hope you feel our love. Don and Mary

Don and Mary Frankenberg - October 24, 2018 at 04:49 PM

MH

“ Charles gave me an opportunity to work his camp in 1977. I learned so much from that experience, I know it was the first real step in establishing my coaching career. He was a mentor to many in the coaching profession and a true legend in Girls Basketball. His promotion of girls basketball was visionary and unparalleled. He will always be the “Chairman of the Board”. I’ll never forget him. With kind thoughts and prayers. Mike Henderson

Mike Henderson - October 23, 2018 at 02:48 PM

DJ

“ *Sheneesta, We are so sorry to learn of Coach Heatly's passing. He was a great coach and loved by all. We pray for you and the family as you go through the difficult days ahead. Kathy & DJ*

Don & Kathy Mihalhauser Jones - October 23, 2018 at 01:28 PM

DA

“ *Coach Heatly gave me encouragement when I really needed it. God bless the family. He was truly a kind man and a great coach.*

Dan Anthony - October 21, 2018 at 12:23 AM

DH

“ *Coach Heatly created the atmosphere for basketball in Lindsay to become energizing and competitive while engaging the entire community and beyond. As a potential player for Coach, he offered me the opportunity to participate in basketball camp during the summer of seventh grade year. I loved it and asked if I could come back every week and work the camp. He graciously agreed and I enjoyed every minute I was there meeting people and learning to love the game. He instilled in his players a desire to become the best person/player they could be which transferred into life and career ambition later. Of any person that I've ever encountered in life, Coach Heatly set a course in front of me. I'll be forever grateful and always aware of my duty to assist others on their course as well. Prayers for peace and comfort for his family.*

Dawn Davis Hotubbee - October 19, 2018 at 09:25 PM

CE

“ Met Coach Heatly in the late 70's early 80's when I came to Lindsay to broadcast the Weatherford girls in the Lindsay All Girls Tournament. When I semi-retired in 2008, I made one more trip back to Lindsay to broadcast the Weatherford girls and boys in the Lindsay Tournament. Coach Heatly was still there. In future years I would run across him at the State Tournament. He always knew me and we exchanged pleasantries. One of my late good friends, Gary Rader, was a very close friend with Charlie. He will always be "Coach" and he will always be remembered. CHUCK EDWARDS Ashcraft, Weatherford, retired radio voice of the Weatherford Eagles and SWOSU Bulldogs 1977-2008

Chuck Edwards - October 18, 2018 at 10:10 PM

SK

“ The fundamental skills to play basketball back in the early 1970's when high school girls basketball played 6 on 6 gave me an exceptional advantage to play 5 man full court the following 4 years in college. I was blessed to have the opportunity to personally thank Coach Heatly and give him my appreciation for my athletic success and to "talk basketball" throughout the many years he was present at Lindsay basketball games. The memories of our basketball camps, the coaches, counselors, aides and campers will always be cherished. May his soul, through the mercy of God, Rest In Peace.

Sheryl Kochert - October 18, 2018 at 04:45 PM

CM

“ I appreciate Coach Heatly's dedication and support throughout the years. He was a mentor and a friend. I will miss him

Cherie Myers - October 18, 2018 at 09:54 AM

CM

“ *Coach Charles Heatly*

Carolyn Malena-Franklin - October 17, 2018 at 06:16 PM

MC

“ *Charlie was a good man, he served as basketball coach in Lindsay many years, he always kept a welcoming attitude and served us in many other ways. He will be missed.*

Meredon Cable - October 17, 2018 at 04:11 PM