



EDWARD M. POLHEMUS
CLASS OF 1967

Edward M. Polhemus was born and raised in Point Pleasant, where he attended Ocean Road Elementary School and was a 1967 graduate of Point Pleasant Borough High School. Ed was in the first freshman class to enter the Boro. He was an “original Panther”, attending the high school for 4 years, 1963 – 67.

Ed was the first soccer athlete in school history to win 4 varsity letters. He played on the first Shore Conference championship team and played in the state finals game versus Chatham in 1965. Although the team lost in that final game, it was the first significant championship that Point Pleasant was involved in, and the team finished 17-2-1. Ed also played 2 years of varsity basketball and 2 years of baseball, and earned a varsity letter in track. His biggest influences while at the Boro were Mr. Dave Dean, Mr. Tom Porter, Mr. Richard Lansing, Mr. Al Saner, Dr. Lawrence DeBellis, Mr. Jim Williams, Mr. Jack McHugh, Mr. Richard Morris, and Mr. Lincoln Jividen.

After graduating from the Boro, Ed attended Morris Harvey College (now the University of Charleston) in Charleston, WV. While at Morris Harvey, he played soccer, helping to lead the team to their first 3 winning seasons, with a record of 22-11-1. Amazingly, the 1970 team had 8 starting players from Point Boro, and was the only

team to defeat Davis and Elkins, which went on to win the NAIA National Championship that year. During his career, Ed achieved the following All Conference honors - Honorable Mention - 1968; Second Team – 1969; and First Team – 1970.

He was named to Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities in 1971. Upon graduating from Morris Harvey in June, 1971 with a BA in Health, Physical Education, History and English, Ed returned to the Jersey Shore, and taught Health, Physical Education, and Drivers Theory for 2 years in Manasquan Public Schools and 34 years in the Toms River Regional School District.

Ed coached 60 seasons of various sports in the Shore Conference, with stints at Manasquan, Toms River North, Toms River South, Toms River East, Point Pleasant Beach, and Brick Memorial. He coached 19 seasons of boys' soccer; 22 seasons of girls' soccer; 2 years of baseball; 14 years of boys' and girls' basketball; and 3 years of girls' track. His most significant achievement was serving as the first head coach for girls' soccer at Toms River East High School, winning 245 games, 6 Class A South championships, and back-to-back Shore Conference Championships in 1984 and 1985. He was named the NJ Girls' Soccer Coach of the Year in 1985 by the Newark Star Ledger.

Ed has been a role model for many and helped many students and athletes achieve their goals as players and citizens. Currently, Ed is involved in instructing behind-the-wheel driving and actively serves at Grace Bible Church in Allenwood, NJ. He has been married to his college sweetheart, Phyllis, for 44 years and they have 3 children and 3 grandchildren. Their son Daniel serves in the United States Coast Guard as the Officer-in-Charge at Lake Tahoe; daughter Leah is a teacher and coach in Florida; and Adam is a sergeant in the NJ State Police. Ed has been blessed to be a pioneer and leader at Point Boro and Morris Harvey, and a teacher and coach in the Shore Conference. He is thankful for being awarded this outstanding honor.