



Verl Lindel Capps Jr "Buddy"

January 5, 1955 - January 4, 2023

Verl L. (Buddy) Capps, Jr. lived a purpose-driven life inspiring those around him to be better. Born January 5, 1955, in Charlotte, North Carolina, he was the first-born of the late Verl, Sr. and Helen Capps and the eldest brother of three sisters. He married his wife, Mary, on St. Patrick's Day, 1990. They had three children, Ryan, Jessica, and Erin. Buddy loved to coach, to read, to act in theatre, to cook, and to sing in a variety of groups including church choirs and community choruses. He was drawn to mentor and impacted the lives of all those he coached.

Buddy was a 1973 graduate of Duncanville (TX) High School where he participated in football, basketball, musical groups, theatre, and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). He continued his involvement in these activities during college at Oklahoma Christian College, where he was a two-time letterman in basketball and sang and played the bass guitar in a band called Copperfield. He transferred to Dallas Baptist College finishing his collegiate basketball career as one time letterman in basketball and received his BS degree in biology and physical education in 1978.

Upon graduating from college, he taught biology and coached in Duncanville (TX), Grand Prairie (TX), Madill (OK), Plainview (OK), Guymon (OK), Marietta (OK), and retired at Plainview in 2016 to conclude his 40+ year career in education. During his tenure at Madill HS, he created the Golden Shoe Award

to commemorate the rivalry between Madill and Kingston. In Marietta, he started the cross-country program and in Guymon and Marietta, established a Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Many of his basketball, golf, and cross-country teams found success and made the play-offs, two golf teams won state championships while three other teams were state runners-up. He was a 5-time coach of the year in the various conferences his teams participated. In 2003, Buddy was named Oklahoma's FCA All- State Coach.

Though a man of few words, when Buddy chose to speak, his words were purposeful and intentional. Buddy lived a life of service to his God, his family, and his students. Through his family and students, a legacy of faith, hope, and love will live on. He is survived by his wife Mary, son Ryan, daughters Jessica (Chad), and Erin; sisters Kimberly Alexander, Christie Siar (Mike), and Cheryl Hawkins (John); grandsons Sam, Mac, and Jack; and many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Coach Buddy Capps Scholarship fund or to the Fellowship of Christian Athletes in his name. A Scholarship is being established in the memory of Coach Capps. Tax-deductible contributions may be made to Community Activities, Inc. of Ardmore, PO Box 2597, Ardmore, OK 73402. Checks should state "Coach Buddy Capps Scholarship" in the memo. For more information, you may contact Mary Kate Wilson (580-223-3883). To donate to Fellowship of Christian Athletes, visit <https://www.fca.org/donate>.

A celebration of life will be held at 11:00 AM Saturday, January 14, 2023 at the First Methodist Church in Ardmore, Oklahoma.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JAN 14. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Methodist Church
Ardmore, OK

Tribute Wall



“ *Verl Lindel Capps Jr "Buddy"*

October 05, 2023 at 07:47 PM



“ *May God comfort each of you as only he can.*

melody smith wong - January 11, 2023 at 12:40 PM



“ *Buddy was a gentleman. A huge man not only in stature but in heart and soul. I'm proud to have called him a teammate and friend but so much more glad to know he is a brother in Christ and is celebrating our Savior this very moment. Prayers for all those who grieve his loss.*

Tommy Haigood - January 09, 2023 at 12:18 AM



“ *Deepest thoughts and prayers for Buddy's family at this time of loss. John and Charla Guyon, friends from Duncanville class of 1973.*


John and Charla Guyon - January 08, 2023 at 11:34 PM



Buddy Capps (Coach Capps) was a gentle Giant with a heart for all

Paul Riley - January 13, 2023 at 02:55 PM



My deepest sympathy to BUDDY'S family.....graduated with him in 1973.... He was a great person....GOD IS GOOD...KEEP THE FAITH.... 

Latisha Jimmerson Treadwell - January 15, 2023 at 10:12 AM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Verl Lindel Capps Jr "Buddy".



January 06, 2023 at 10:48 AM



“ In my 30 years of education I did not meet another person with such endearing qualities. Always pleasant, incessantly thoughtful, and totally humble. With Buddy it was about some student's needs or what he could do to help you. Buddy was also highly intelligent and that to go with his patience and caring made him an outstanding teacher and coach. It is such a loss to have Buddy depart us so soon. My world will be amiss knowing Buddy is not among us. His departure truly saddens and grieves me. Rest in peace Buddy. If anyone has earned it it is surely you.

Jimmy Green - January 06, 2023 at 10:29 AM



This world has lost a great man, teacher, and coach. I had the pleasure of working with Buddy for many years at Plainview. He was always willing to give advice, help out with anything you needed, or just sit around in the coaches office and talk. My thoughts and prayers go out to Mary and the family. Buddy may be gone but his memory will live on forever. God Bless. Janice Conway

Janice Conway - January 06, 2023 at 05:02 PM

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Coach Capps. Soft spoken, thoughtful when he did speak but don't get s_____ twisted he was a competitor to the bone. And a really good basketball player that most people didn't get to see very often. Took me John Cross and Simon Lathrop to Indiana to an FCA basketball camp I'll never forget the experience of fellowship and the extremely good competition we saw there. Always pushed me and my teammates to get better every day. Made me a better person and athlete. I can't say a single bad thing about Coach Capps. Well... maybe one thing, he made us run suicides just a little too often. Loved him... great man. Prayers to his family...

Curtis Runnels - March 28, 2024 at 09:07 PM