

FRED AND NANCY GIRT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Fred Girt
July 15, 1951-September 1, 2010

Nancy Girt
November 14, 1951-December 26, 2021

The third of four sons, Fred Johnson Girt III was born July 15, 1951 to Fred and Dorothy Girt of Coos Bay, Oregon. He spent most of his entire life living in the Bay Area, attending Market Street Elementary, Michigan Avenue Jr. High and graduating in the class of 1969 from Marshfield High School.

Fred was a three-sport athlete all four of his high school years lettering in basketball, football and track. Football was Fred's greatest passion where he earned 1st Team All-State Honors in 1967 and 1968 as a running back. He was also selected Team Captain, was a member of the State Finals in 1968 and was selected to participate in the State All Star Shrine Game in the summer of 1969.

Track and Field was yet another sport Fred excelled in where he long jumped, sprinted, and ran the high and low hurdles. In 1969 he was the District Champion in both hurdles. He earned honors at the State Track and Field Meet his Junior and Senior years running the high and low hurdles, placing 2nd his junior year. Fred continues to hold the Coos County record in the high hurdles.

Following high school Fred earned a full ride scholarship to play football at Oregon State University for Coach Dee Andros. While playing football for four years, Fred earned degrees in Mathematics, Physical Education and Health. During the summer of 1972 he married his high school sweetheart, Nancy Susick.

Upon graduating from OSU in 1974 Fred and Nancy moved back to the Bay Area to begin their teaching and coaching careers until they retired in 2009. Fred had a special gift that enabled him to reach out to all levels of students and athletes truly making a difference in the lives of children. Using his quick sense of humor, compassion, and dedication, he taught and coached at every level including kindergarten through the 12th grade in the Coos Bay School District. Fred

also participated on numerous Math and PE committees at the district and state level, coached the Math Counts Team and has been a volunteer coach for the Boys and Girls Club.

Nancy Girt was born on November 14th, 1951, to Pete and Marcella Susick of North Bend, Oregon. She spent most of her life in the Bay Area, attending Bangor Elementary School, North Bend Junior High, and graduating from Marshfield High School in 1970. Nancy graduated from Oregon State University with a degree in Elementary Education and returned to Coos Bay to start her 35-year career in the profession. She married her high school sweetheart, Fred Girt, in 1972 and raised their two children, Chelsey and Casey in Coos Bay.

Nancy was devoted to the community she was raised in. She spent her first few years teaching 1st and 2nd grade at Allegany Elementary School, where she also coached football and basketball for several seasons, and the rest of her career at Blossom Gulch Elementary, both as a teacher and school counselor.

Her long career in education had a special impact on many, as she was a favorite teacher of numerous students and parents. Nancy's decision to go back to school to get her Counseling degree wasn't an easy task, but she saw a need to advocate for the children in this area who had no voice or resources. She took the steps necessary to make a difference in their lives, often grabbing a meal or going out and buying coats and shoes for kids who showed up to school in need. She helped many students and families through profound crises, but she will also be remembered fondly by the countless students, parents, and staff who benefitted daily from her constant support and kindness.

After her retirement in 2009 and Fred's death in 2010, Nancy continued her passionate support of Coos Bay schools by organizing and funding the Fred Girt Memorial Scholarship Fund and by staying connected through the Coos Bay Schools Community Foundation where she served on the Board of Directors for many years.

Fred and Nancy had been married for 38 years at the time of Fred's death. Their most valued treasures were their family. Their two children, Chelsey and Casey, are both graduates of MHS. Chelsey and her husband Michael Seedborg teach and coach at Marshfield High School. Casey and his wife Amity live in Portland where Casey is a manager for Conrad Wood Forest Products and Amity is Assistant Dist. Attorney for Multnomah County.

After Fred passed away Nancy kept him alive for their four grandchildren, the first of whom was born that same year. Nancy found a new purpose and fulfillment in life as "Nana," arguably her most treasured role. She loved her family more than anything and was an incredible friend to many.