

2. Perry Holland

Our next 2025 inductee is Perry Holland.

Coach Perry Holland's relationship with Central High began in 1971 when he became the Head Football Coach of Whitesburg's 8th-grade team. Over 9 years, Whitesburg amassed a 54- 6 record. Many of the players from Whitesburg helped build the foundation for the Central Championship years, and many played at the collegiate level.

Coach Holland started his High School Coaching career at Mt. Zion High School where he served as head track and field coach for both Girls and Boys, actually starting the girls team, he coached JV basketball for boys and girls, and was an assistant football coach. His track team was Region Runner up for Boys in 79-80, with 6 state qualifiers.

Coach Holland's move to Central in 1980 was inspired by Central icon Billy Maxwell, who asked him to apply for the track position promising that a track would be constructed that summer. He supervised the construction, as the first official track was built at Central High School. His coaching duties at Central included—8th-grade girls' basketball, 8th-grade boys' basketball, Varsity girls' basketball, Varsity Boys Basketball, Varsity Football secondary coach, and scout for future opponents for five years. Including the two state championship years. Coach was also the head coach of Track and Field both girls and boys.

Coach Holland started the girls track program at CHS. During that time the girls were region champions in 82 and 83 and placed 4th in state in 83.. The boys team were region champions 1983 beating state powerhouse West Rome, during this time he coached the state champion in long jump in 1982 and 83. Coach Holland was named the region coach of the year in girls track in 1982 and region coach of the year for boys in 1983.

Coach Holland led Central's Boys Varsity Track team to a record 13 first-place finishes at the Carrollton Relay, multiple relay championships, and a state title before becoming Head Track and Field Coach at the University of West Georgia. He also coached championship middle school basketball teams and developed numerous athletes who are members of the Central Athletic Hall of Fame.

Beyond Central, he directed Carrollton Recreation and AAU Track, chaired state and regional track organizations, hosted major championships, and earned the Outstanding Coach Award in 1982. At West Georgia, his teams finished runner-up at state meets, produced All-Americans, and he was named Gulf South Conference Coach of the Year in 1985.

He later coached multiple sports at Hogansville and Callaway High, earning several Coach of the Year honors, guiding athletes to state titles, and sending many on to college careers.

Together with his late wife, LaNelle, who volunteered for Central athletics for decades, the Hollands supported the school community for over 55 years. Their six children were deeply involved in Central activities, continuing the family's lasting legacy in academics and athletics.

Please congratulate Coach Perry Holland