



Michael Bucko

Year of Induction: **2013**

Year of Graduation: **1977**

Whether it was swinging a golf club on the course or a baseball bat on the diamond, Michael Bucko, JCHS Class of 1977 is remembered as being the heart and soul of each Wildcat team he appeared on in the mid 70's. Mr. Bucko earned 9 varsity letters during his time at JCHS: 4 in golf, 3 in baseball, and 2 in basketball.

Beginning in the fall of 1973, Mike would be a fixture on the Wildcats varsity golf team, and he would go on to lead the team to two STAC championships in 1975 and 1976. Mike was a first team All-STAC performer during both of the championship seasons. He was also recognized as an All-American golfer in his senior season of 1976.

In addition to the success he experienced with the Wildcats golf team, Mr. Bucko was also a standout member of the Johnson City baseball teams from 1975-1977. Mike's strengths on the diamond lead the Wildcats to a STAC championship in the spring of 1977, and he was an All-STAC pitcher during both the 1976 and 1977 seasons. During those two memorable seasons, Mike was credited with two no-hitters and one perfect game on opening day in 1976 vs. Norwich. Mike led STAC in both ERA and strikeouts during his junior and senior seasons, and his accomplishments earned him a spot on the SUNY Binghamton baseball team after his graduation in 1977. After four successful college seasons in which he was a first team All-SUNYAC pitcher in each year from 1977-1981, Mike was drafted by the Cleveland Indians organization.

As written on Mr. Bucko's nomination form, "Michael Bucko is a man of great integrity and character, and while playing sports at Johnson City, he always gave 110%. He continues to support, help, encourage, and coach children of all ages in a variety of sports." Along with his many accomplishments during his playing days, this description truly makes it easy to understand why the Johnson City Athletic Hall of Fame is proud to welcome Mr. Michael Bucko, Johnson City Class of 1977.