

Richard C. Gulbin

Year of Induction: 2019

Year of Graduation: 1957

Richard Gulbin graduated from Johnson City High School in 1957 with multiple athletic Varsity Award Letters in football, baseball and basketball. He was an outstanding allaround athlete that was proud to wear maroon and white whether it was on the field, on the court or in the classroom. Although he played football and baseball, he was most prominent in basketball. He was named the Most Valuable Player on the 1956-1957 Johnson City varsity team during his senior year. In addition, Rich, known as "Mr. Wonderful" during his high school years, was also the Class of 1957 Student Government President, a member of Key Club and the varsity basketball captain his senior year.

Beyond high school, Rich played D1-A basketball for Colgate University. He was president of the Newman Club and a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. For several years he was a familiar figure at the Johnson Field, as a box-seat usher, ball boy and even an occasional announcer at Triplets games.

Throughout Rich's entire working career – he focused on kids. He worked at Vestal High School as a social studies teacher, managing to also coach the freshman football team as well as assist in coaching track. Rich later transitioned to Seton Catholic Central and then eventually Susquehanna Valley High School, where he once again found himself teaching and coaching sports such as track, football and basketball. During this time, he had the honor of not only coaching multiple sport teams, but also building basketball programs from the ground up. Rich, awarded "Coach of the Year" by the Press and Sun-Bulletin, achieved STAC and Section IV Championships.

Twenty years after Rich Gulbin graduated from Johnson City High School, he found himself back in Wildcat territory as the Johnson City High School principal. For the next 18 years he would not only juggle his administration responsibilities, but also manage to give back by serving as the principal representative to the state athletic association as well as being the president of Section IV for 15 years. He continued to support athletics by officiating high school and college basketball games, including D1 games at Syracuse, St. Bonaventure and Georgetown. He even managed to serve as the interim JC Boys Varsity basketball coach.

Although a very strong athlete himself and a strong contributor to "the game," Rich Gulbin will tell you that being a part of sports is not an end in itself, but rather a journey that allows you to experience life while building life-long friendships.

Johnson City is proud to welcome Mr. Rich Gulbin into its athletic hall of fame.