

Ervin L. Stepp

Phelps High School

Ervin Stepp holds 42 State records, which is tops in Kentucky School Boy hoops. Ervin is the only player in the history of the sport on the high school, college or pro level who has averaged at least 47 or more points for two consecutive years (47.2 p.p.g.-1979, 53.7 p.p.g.-1980). All of his scoring records were achieved before the 3-pointer was in effect. He was a 58% career field goal shooter while hitting 84% of his foul shots. His 53.7 mark still stands number one nationally for a regular season average. He made first team all state his junior season and received the coveted Mr. Basketball award during his senior campaign. After being named to the McDonald's and Converse All-American teams, Stepp played his college ball at Eastern Kentucky University and Alice Lloyd College. He played semi-professional for the Huntington Express in 1996 at age 35. Ervin, who taught and coached for 15 years at the high school and college level now owns and operates Ashland Prosthetics in Ashland, KY.

ERVIN LEE STEPP
PHELPS HIGH SCHOOL 1980

- ACCOMPLISHMENTS -

Senior 1980 – Phelps High School

- Kentucky Mr. Basketball
- Converse All American
- Hertz Corporation Kentucky Athlete of the Year
- Shattered his own state scoring record pouring in 1,449 points in 27 games, averaging 53.7 p.p.g.
- Nation's leading scorer
- Captain, All State Team
- Only player in basketball history to average over 50 points per game for a two year period
- Honored by State Senate when March 19, 1980 was declared "Ervin Stepp Day" in the Commonwealth
- Set national record for the most free throws made in one season
- Shot 58% from the field and 88% from the foul line
- Averaged 10 rebounds and 5 assists per game
- Led team to 20 – 8 record

Junior 1979 – Phelps High School

- 1st Team All-State
- Nation's leading scorer
- Scored 1,275 points for a scoring average of 47.3 p.p.g. This broke the state record held by Kelly Coleman
- Only 1st Team All –State player in school history.
- Shot 60% from the field and 87% from the foul line
- Scored 1,275 points
- Averaged 11 rebounds and 5 assists per game
- Set state record for most free throws made in one season
- Led team to 18 – 10 record

Sophomore 1978 – Sheldon Clark High School

- Scored 504 points averaging 18 p.p.g.
- Shot 65% from the field
- Led Sheldon Clark to their best record in school history: 24 – 4
- Added 5 rebounds and 4 assists per game

CAREER POINTS TOTAL: 3,228 points



100 Purpose Road • Pippa Passes, Kentucky 41844 • (606) 368-2101

October 31, 2002

Dawahares/K.H.S.A.A. Hall of Fame
2280 Executive Drive
Lexington, KY 40505

Dear Dawahares/K.H.S.A.A. Sports Hall of Fame Screening and Selection Committee:

I am writing this letter to recommend Ervin Stepp of Phelps High School, class of 1980, as a worthy recipient to the Dawahares/K.H.S.A.A. Hall of Fame.

I was privileged to be Ervin's coach during both his junior and senior years of high school. When I accepted the coaching job at Phelps, it was my goal to build a competitive program and I felt that Ervin could be the cornerstone toward a winning season. Little did I know, however, the fame he would bring to our school, community, and state.

The first game of his junior year, he exploded for 50 points in leading us to a win. The amazing thing was not just the points, but the ease in which he scored them. After that first game, things just seemed to snowball as our team got on a roll. Ervin was scoring points at an incredible rate, but the special thing was the role his teammates played. They were not only excited about all the attention Ervin was receiving, but were thrilled to be part of a winning team. They each knew their role and went out of their way to help Ervin achieve his potential. For the season, he led the nation in scoring and broke Kelly Coleman's state scoring record by averaging 48 points per game. He shot an amazing 60% from the field, and made over 87% of his foul shots. He also added 11 rebounds and handed out 5 assists a game. The best part, however, was that we finished with an 18-10 record. Ervin made first team All State in every poll and was a front runner for Mr. Basketball his senior year.

Ervin could have rested on his laurels, but he dedicated himself to improving his game during the off season. Personally, I felt there was no way that Ervin could improve on his junior year statistics as he began his senior year. I am happy to say that I was wrong.

Ervin scored 1,449 points and finished the regular season with an average of 54.3 points per game. He shot over 58% from the field, 88% from the foul line, and added 10 rebounds and 5 assists per game.

Dawahares/K.H.S.A.A. Hall of Fame

October 31, 2002

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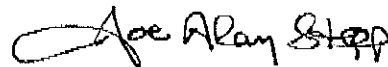
Ervin had a high game of 75 points, and a low of 34 during his senior campaign. It is mind boggling as I reflect on his statistics, knowing that every team we played geared their entire defense toward shutting him down. He also led Phelps to an impressive 20-8 record that season.

Ervin won every honor imaginable that year. In addition to being named 1980 Mr. Basketball, he was named Converse All American, honored by the Hertz Corporation as the Kentucky Athlete of the year, and chosen first team All State on every poll. He was even honored by the state legislature who declared March 19, 1980, as Ervin Stepp Day throughout the Commonwealth. Ervin finished his high school career with 3,228 points and a career scoring average of over 40 points per game, which is the best in our state's history.

The thing about Ervin for which I am most proud is not his Mr. Basketball Award, nor seeing his name scattered throughout the state and national record books, but the gratification in knowing that he remained humbled and embarrassed by all of the attention. He was a friend to all of his classmates, teammates and community members. I will also add that Ervin maintained a 4.0 GPA while attending Phelps, and never lost sight of the fact that he was a student first and athlete second.

I trust that you will give careful consideration to my nomination of Ervin Stepp for the Dawahares/K.H.S.A.A. Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,



Joe A. Stepp
President

JAS/le

The June Buchanan School

Alice Lloyd College
100 Purpose Road
Pippa Passes, Kentucky 41844
(606) 368-6108



October 30, 2002

Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame
2280 Executive Drive
Lexington, KY 40505

Dear Dawahares/KHSAA Sports Hall of Fame Screening and Selection Committee,

It gives me great pleasure to send this letter on behalf of Ervin Stepp for consideration of induction into the Dawahares KHSAA Hall of Fame. I have had the opportunity to observe Mr. Stepp play basketball as a result of my being a high school, and college, basketball official for many years. I can say without hesitation that Ervin Stepp has the necessary statistics to warrant this highest honor. He also demonstrates the exemplary character traits, both on and off the basketball court, that makes this an easy recommendation.

I have spent a total of 35 years refereeing high school basketball games. For twelve of these years I was selected to officiate at the Kentucky State Basketball Tournament. I can honestly say that I have never seen a player who has had more impact on the game of high school basketball than Ervin Stepp.

Your kind consideration would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Mr. Yvon Allen
Twelve times KHSAA State Tournament Basketball Official
Headmaster, The June Buchanan School

October 31, 2002

Dawahares/K.H.S.A.A. Hall of Fame
2280 Executive Drive
Lexington, KY 40505

Dear Dawahares/K.H.S.A.A. Sports Hall of Fame Screening and Selection Committee:

I am writing this letter of recommendation in reference to "Mr. Basketball" in the state of Kentucky in 1980. The player I am referring to is #40 - Ervin Stepp -- Phelps High School, Phelps, Kentucky.

Ervin played two seasons at Phelps in the late 70's, early 80's. At the time Ervin won "Mr. Basketball", I was a fellow student-athlete (football). As a current member of the school and athletic community at Phelps High School and the state of Kentucky, I would like to take this opportunity to say I am very honored to be able to recommend Mr. Ervin Stepp to the Hall of Fame.

While at Phelps, Ervin was an excellent student-athlete. His relationships with others both athletically as well as a community member is what High School athletics are all about. He did serve the school and community very well with his excellent Basketball skills as well as his excellent "people" skills.

I have known Ervin and his family for approximately 24 years. In that time period, I have witnessed Ervin's athletic talents in both the high school and college arenas. Not only was Ervin an outstanding high school Basketball player, he was also an outstanding person as well.

The impact Ervin and his family have had on the State of Kentucky as well as in the United States in relation to the game of Basketball has been extraordinary. I truly believe Ervin should be considered for induction into the Hall of Fame based on his past athletic performances.

In conclusion, the Faculty, Staff, Students, and Community of Phelps High School, Phelps, Kentucky are asking you as a committee to consider one of our own - Mr. Ervin Stepp #40 - for this prestigious honor. We do believe he is worthy of induction into the Hall of Fame based on his many contributions both athletically and academically to our school, community, state, and nation.

Thank you for considering Ervin Stepp for the Dawahares/K.H.S.A.A. Sports Hall of Fame.

Yours In Sports,

William Boyd McKinney
William Boyd McKinney
Athletic Director/Head Football Coach
Phelps High School

JUNES 01L

Faith Christian Church
Peppi Francis, Pastor
P.O. Box 679
Phelps, Ky. 41553

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Ervin Stepp

It is my privilege to recommend Ervin Stepp to the KHSAA Dawahare's Sports Hall of Fame. His record of athletics will long be remembered in the state of Kentucky.

I was a fellow teammate of Ervin's, during the two seasons in which he played at Phelps High School. During this time, Ervin was the nation's leading scorer and also Mr. Basketball in Kentucky. While being recruited by hundreds of college scouts, and being followed continually by the media, Ervin maintained a great relationship with his fellow teammates and with the people of the community.

I have known Ervin personally for over twenty years. He has been a person of outstanding character and a role model for all student athletes. In addition to his achievements on the court, Ervin has continually been active in community service throughout the years.

I highly recommend Ervin, and believe that he would be a great asset to he Dawahare's Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

Peppi Francis
Peppi Francis