

*Gary L. Waddell*  
*4891 Bellewood Park*  
*Atlanta, Georgia 30338*

February 8, 2011

Mr. Mike Embry  
152 Skyview Drive  
Frankfort, Kentucky 406601-8376

Dear Mr. Embry:

Although, to my knowledge, we have never met, I have enjoyed reading your columns in the *Herald Leader* over the years.

I am writing to recommend Jock Sutherland's nomination into the Kentucky High School Hall of Fame. As you know, Jock is arguably the most colorful basketball coach in modern times. He brought attention and interest to the sport throughout the state. In addition, he was extremely successful in taking Harrison County to numerous state tournaments and leading Lafayette to the 1979 State Championship. I think he has been a credit to the coaching profession and is very deserving of this nomination.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Gary L. Waddell

**Michael Embry**

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**From:** "Reed William" <breedii@aol.com>  
**To:** "Embry Mike" <membry@fewpb.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 05, 2011 7:50 AM  
**Subject:** From Billy

February 5, 2011

To: Hall of Fame Selection Committee  
From: Billy Reed  
Re: Jock Sutherland

In my 51-plus years of covering sports in Kentucky for The Courier-Journal, the Herald-Leader, and other media outlets, I've encountered untold numbers of players, coaches, and administrators. None has made a great impression upon me, or contributed more to basketball in the commonwealth, than Charles "Jock" Sutherland. In his career as both a coach and broadcaster, Jock established himself as a true original, one of kind, a person who will never be forgotten by anybody who crossed paths with him. His outstanding coaching record, including the 1979 state championship at Lafayette, only tells a part of his story. He coached with a unique combination of passion, flair, and humor. Jock always was a writer's best friend, invariably obliging to fill up a notebook or tape recorder with colorful material.

He loved his players and they loved him. And he was color blind before that was the proper thing to do, integrating the program at Harrison County in the early 1960s. During his one foray outside the state, as an assistant coach to C.M. Newton at the University of Alabama in 1969-'70, Jock helped recruit the university's first African-American player. Perhaps he came from humble roots, Jock always judged a player not by the color of his skin, but by the content of his character.

No author would ever be able to write a history of Kentucky high school basketball without including a chapter, or at least a long passage, about Jock. After his retirement from coaching, he took his unique personality into broadcasting, joining Van Vance on the University of Louisville play-by-play team for WHAS radio. Jock's gift of gab and sense of humor endeared him to Cardinal fans and won him a friend in Coach Denny Crum.

I whole-heartedly endorse Jock for any honor for which he's eligible. He is a Kentuckian through and through, and our state's sports culture and history are richer because of his contributions.

Regards,

Billy Reed  
Executive 'Scholar in Residence  
Georgetown College=

# Michael Embry

152 Skyview Drive  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
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Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame  
Nomination Committee  
2280 Executive Drive  
Lexington, KY 40505

February 27, 2011

Dear Committee Members:

I would like to nominate Charles "Jock" Sutherland for induction into the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame.

Sutherland was a standout basketball player at Lexington Lafayette High School in the 1940s and a distinguished high school coach at four Kentucky schools -- Gallatin County, Harrison County, Madisonville, and Lafayette. In 1971 he became the first coach to guide three schools to the Sweet 16 (Gallatin County, Harrison County, and Lafayette). Sutherland's career culminated in 1979 when he led Lafayette to the state championship.

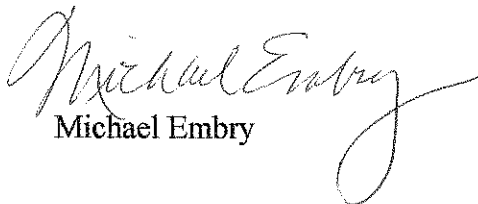
Sutherland's 22-season record was 385-213, and 47 of those losses came during his first three years as a coach. During that span he guided six teams to the state tournament.

Sutherland also served as an assistant coach at the University of Alabama under C.M. Newton and was instrumental in helping the Crimson Tide recruit the school's first African-American player (Wendell Hudson) in 1969.

I have included several letters of recommendation and other materials to support Sutherland's illustrious qualification for induction. Stuart Warner, an award-winning journalist, also wrote a biography about Sutherland called, "Jock: A Coach's Story" that was published in 2010. I will arrange for a copy of the book as well as a photo of Sutherland to be sent to you.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

  
Michael Embry

**Kentucky.com**



## **In victory or defeat, players prepare for life lessons**

By Stuart Warner at 12:00am on Mar 17, 2010 Modified at 7:29am on Mar 17, 2010

Sixteen high schools will participate in the Kentucky Boys High School State Basketball Tournament in Lexington this week. And cheers to them for the victories that got them here.

But I was reminded as I was researching my new biography of former coach Jock Sutherland that the greatest lessons from high school basketball and any other sport often come out of defeat.

I rode with Sutherland to meet many of his former players. On one of those trips, as I was driving north on Paris Pike, he pulled out a faded envelope that he had received from Jimmy Edwards on May 12, 1967.

Edwards was a senior center on Sutherland's 1962-63 Harrison County High team. He was a fine athlete, but lacked confidence. The coach often had to chide him not to be afraid to shoot the ball.

The team was one of the coach's best ever, a team many thought had a chance to win the state title. Harrison County took a 27-2 record into the 10th Region semifinal game against Bourbon County. But star senior guard Ronnie Whitson lost a contact lens before the contest and Harrison County lost by a point when Edwards' tap-in at the final buzzer fell off the rim.

Edwards sat alone on the floor in silence as the Bourbon County players celebrated their victory. They also won the regional title game, their ticket to Lexington.

Sutherland didn't know then that Edwards had a difficult relationship with his father. And Edwards never told his coach how much he appreciated what he had learned from him, never told him how much it meant that Sutherland was there to comfort him when his mother was killed in a car accident his senior season.

Four years later, Army Specialist 4th Class Jim Edwards, on a tour in Vietnam, was elated when he received a letter from his former coach. The emotions he seldom expressed in high school suddenly came pouring out. He wrote back from a foxhole while his squad was out on maneuvers:

"Coach Sutherland: "I was really glad to hear from you. ... You told me about where you were at ... I will give you an idea where I am. We are on Operation Manhattan, in the Bali Woods. We are supposed to have Charlie surrounded. It may be just the opposite. We have made light contact, but I expect heavier contact in the hours ahead.

"I read your letter very carefully. It brought back many memories. ... I am a squad leader now. This is a very dangerous game we are playing. A big responsibility has been laid upon my shoulders. I don't only have to look out for myself, but the members of my squad .... If something goes wrong with them, I will feel responsible.

"I've done some foolish and childish things before, but I have grown up a little bit now. I've always have had a problem with lack of confidence. I've found out that I had a little more inside than I thought I had ...

"I have approximately 120 days left here. I hope that I will make it. I have been very lucky so far. There is so much I want to say but there isn't much time. You have been more than a coach and a friend. I admire you more than any person in the world. You have done so much for me. I don't want to disappoint you. I'm going to come through for you for a change.

"Well, I guess I had better sign out. Don't worry, I'm not going to shoot like a scared stick."

As we continued our drive that day, Sutherland folded the letter and placed it back in the envelope.

"Do you see why I've kept this all these years?" he asked.

I didn't have to answer.

I hope all of the students who are celebrating this week understand that, too.

Stuart Warner, a former Herald-Leader sports editor is author of *JOCK: A Coach's Story*. The Lexington native teaches journalism at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland.

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

March 5, 2011

Dear Committee Members:

Enclosed are two photos of Charles "Jock" Sutherland to accompany the nomination form that was recently mailed to you. Please let me know if you need additional information.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

  
Michael Embry



July 27, 2011

Ms. Dawahares,

It is with great pleasure and fond memories that I write this letter. In 1959 I was eleven years old and my maternal grandmother was a cafeteria lady at the Gallatin County School. She and my Mother absolutely loved Jock Sutherland and how great he was for the children and the morale of the school in our little hometown.

I remember the night that we all went to "State Tournament". My grandmother Mimia Elderine Harmon, my mother Marilyn Harmon Stephenson, and I joined all the other supporters in front of the Courthouse right in the middle of town. We boarded two Greyhound buses and made the glorious trip to see our boys play in the Kentucky Sweet 16 State tournament. I got to stay up past nine o'clock that night and this is one of the first big important childhood memories I have.

My grandmother passed away in 2000 at 91 years of age but she never forgot Jock or that night.

My mother and I highly recommend Jock for the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

We have sincere hope for his induction, he really deserves it.

Warmest regards,

*Marilyn H. Stephenson  
Leticia S. Bingham*



AUG 03 2011

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

Dear Ms. Dawahares:

The Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame is presently lacking one of the most respected, acclaimed, influential and successful high school basketball coaches ever to mentor young men in the state of Kentucky.


Coach Jock Sutherland devoted much of his life to teaching, mentoring and coaching young men's basketball teams in several high schools throughout Kentucky. He connected with the basketball players on a personal level and maintained friendships with many of them long after they no longer had a teacher/student relationship. Coach Sutherland brought success and the love of basketball to each school he coached during his career and taught his students more than ball handling, defensive plays and offensive maneuvers.

I was one of the young men Coach Sutherland influenced in a most positive way. Coach Sutherland moved into our small county in the mid-50s, my senior year of high school. Right away, we knew this man was serious about basketball and serious about winning games; working hard to improve our skills both on and off the court, and living up to our potential, both in and out of the classroom. After I graduated, I continued to work with Coach Sutherland in practices with his basketball team and in only a couple of years, 1958/59, he took the first team ever from Gallatin County to compete in the state tournament. That team was defeated by the championship team.

Coach Sutherland formed some very strong bonds with his players and, to this day, he remains friends with many of his former students. Coach Sutherland left Gallatin County to lead other teams to victories but he never left the hearts of his fans and players. He has continued to encourage and motivate his former players through difficult times, celebrate their achievements and victories in life, and given us a role model we will always respect and admire.

It is for Coach Sutherland's unselfish devotion to his players, to the game of basketball and to his fans that I urge the KHSAA to include him in the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

  
Ed Carlton  
P.O. Box 558 655  
Warsaw, KY