

Dear Hall of Fame Screening Committee and/or the Hall of Fame Selection Committee,

Harold Mullins was a pioneer for High School Sports Media in Eastern Kentucky. He and Hometown24 (formerly TV12) recognized the need to provide exposure for high school student athletes. In 1985, Harold and TV12 became the first video outlet in Eastern KY to regularly cover high school sports LIVE. Harold would play the biggest role, as he would be the voice of the broadcast. He would go on to become the voice of the mountains and the voice for the kids of Eastern Kentucky.

Since Harold's arrival, sports in Eastern KY have experienced a new level of excitement that has persisted for 38 years. Whether he was broadcasting over the radio or on your TV screen. Not only did Harold's voice resinate across the mountains in Eastern Kentucky, but it was heard across the country and even further. Once we hit the internet with our broadcast, it didn't take long for us to pick up viewers in other countries. Harold's voice drew in viewers from Newfoundland, Australia, New Zealand, and many more. Exposure for KHSAA Student Athletes was the idea, and Harold took it worldwide.

Unfortunately, many of you already know that Harold passed away soon after the KHSAA Sweet Sixteen state tournament, in April. He had been a dedicated spectator and commentator for the tournament since 1966, only missing it for the 4 years he served in the Air Force. For 53 years, Harold was either in the crowd as a fan or on press row, bringing the excitement of his voice to the airwaves. Those airwaves will never be the same. The love he had for the kids and the sports will leave a void that will never be filled.

Not only was Harold committed to his role as a commentator, but he also dedicated 17 years to refereeing. Harold also coached a lot of grade school sports and a few on the high school level. He dedicated his life to the student athletes of Eastern Kentucky.

Harold would make it a family affair, bringing his children and grandchildren to the games with him. I watched several times as his young grandchildren would crawl into his lap, and he would place the headset on them. Each time, he would just light up with joy.

When Covid came around and numbers were being limited in the gyms. Harold along with Hometown24 would once again be innovative. We would still bring coverage and exposure to the athletes of the 14th Region, but we would do it differently. We would send one employee to the gym with the camera and shoot the video back to the station, as Harold would call the game remotely. It was torture for Harold to not be there in person, but he understood the safety of the kids came first.

After what seemed like every year, he would mention to me that he was going to retire to spend more time with his family. However, he loved the sports and kids in this area so much that he couldn't stay away. It was in his blood and such a huge part of his life that he simply couldn't quit. He was an ambassador for KHSAA sports and took pride in covering the kids. I imagine the number of kids he commentated for will never be counted, as it was a tremendous amount. Unfortunately, that excitement will never light up the airwaves again. But we hope that you will consider Harold for the Hall of Fame to help cement that excitement into the history of KHSAA sports.

Thank you for your consideration,

Joshua Cornett - Hometown24 Station Manager

Dear Hall of Fame Screening Committee and/or the Hall of Fame Selection Committee,

There was a time when being named a Hall of Famer meant you had to score a certain number of points or win X-number of championships or have a dramatic, meaningful impact in sports or maybe have a great social importance. Those chosen few deserving to enter a Hall of Fame usually check all these boxes and even more not mentioned.

To my knowledge, Harold Mullins never had a stellar athletic career as a student-athlete at Carr Creek High School, but I know for a fact Harold had a much greater influence on radio and TV. Harold had his own unique way of bringing all the aforementioned qualities to those listening to him on the radio, or watching him on television, within the Knott County area and throughout the 14th region.

For the better part of at least four decades, Harold Mullins described thousands of football, basketball, baseball, and softball games to those not able to attend. No one ever truly knows what that comforting voice means until it is silenced. So it is with Harold and, in my opinion, the greatest media personality the 14th region has ever known.

Harold Mullins was a Carr Creek Indian and a Knott Central Patriot through and through, but he was always a respected persona behind the mic or in front of the camera. Whether it be as grand as the Sweet 16 or as simple as an easily forgotten regular season game, there was ONE voice which knew it was important to be there. That voice belonged to Harold Mullins.

There are those who know his resume' much better than I but, I know this, there has never been a more vital voice in the history of the 14th region than Harold Mullins. No, he wasn't on the biggest radio station, nor the preeminent TV stations of the eastern Kentucky region, but he was the best. When you hear the best, you don't have to look for a close second. I honestly believe it won't take long for this opinionated fact to be shown true.

As you know, Harold passed from this earth in April of 2023 and with his absence will come a void no one will be able to fill. Yes, others will take his place, but I guarantee there will never be another individual who can compare to his knowledge, his desire, his dedication to his craft, or the memories he provided for generations.

Have Mercy, the ripple effect Mr. Mullins had on everyone who listened to his vocabulary understood they were listening to greatness, even if it occurred in an area not known for media giants.

I humbly ask the KHSAA Hall of Fame Committee who votes on inductions to consider this one man who's importance can never be fully articulated in a letter. Harold Mullins was the eyes and ears for a region who brought everyone to the edge of their imaginations visualizing the unique art he created through a microphone.

Respectfully yours,  
Brian Milam – WKYT Sports Director

Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA)  
2280 Executive Drive Lexington, KY 40505

Subject: Nomination of Harold Mullins for the KHSAA Athletic Hall of Fame

Dear KHSAA Selection Committee,

I am writing to enthusiastically endorse the nomination of Harold Mullins for induction into the KHSAA Athletic Hall of Fame. Harold's lifelong dedication to promoting and supporting student-athletes in mountain sports from Eastern Kentucky has had a profound impact on these student-athletes and the broader community.

Harold Mullins began his illustrious career as a sports commentator in 1985, showcasing an unwavering commitment to providing exposure for young athletes from the mountains of Eastern Kentucky. Through his tireless efforts, he became a pivotal figure in amplifying the voices and talents of these athletes, ensuring that they received the recognition and opportunities they deserved.

Mr. Mullins' contributions to the sports community extend far beyond the commentator's booth. He selflessly devoted his time and expertise to coaching both elementary and high school sports, imparting invaluable knowledge and mentorship to countless young athletes. His influence as a sports figure has undoubtedly left an enduring legacy, shaping the lives of those he guided.

I had the blessed opportunity to sit alongside Harold for several years of sports broadcasting. I can truthfully attest that without the mentorship of Harold Mullins, my coaching career as well as any skill I have obtained as a broadcaster would not be near what it is today.

Furthermore, it is worth noting Harold Mullins' remarkable adaptability and innovative spirit. Faced with the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, he ingeniously conceived the idea of commentating live from the studio. This innovative approach allowed for the continuation of sports broadcasts while minimizing on-site personnel, a testament to his resourcefulness and dedication to the craft.

It is without a doubt that Harold Mullins' lifelong contributions to the world of sports and his unwavering support for student-athletes in Eastern Kentucky make him an exemplary candidate for the KHSAA Athletic Hall of Fame. His impact on the community and the lives of those he has touched is immeasurable.

I wholeheartedly endorse Harold Mullins' nomination and believe that his induction into the KHSAA Athletic Hall of Fame would be a fitting tribute to a man whose passion, dedication, and innovation have left an indelible mark on the world of sports in Kentucky.

Thank you for considering this nomination. I look forward to witnessing the continued legacy of Harold Mullins through this well-deserved recognition.

Sincerely,

Wes Smith  
Assistant Coach - Boys Basketball  
Madisonville-North Hopkins

Dear Hall of Fame Screening Committee and/or the Hall of Fame Selection Committee,

I am Larry Thornsberry, and I am writing this letter in support of Harold Mullins to be inducted into KHSAA Hall of Fame. Harold Mullins excelled in broadcasting ( radio and TV) and as a basketball official in the 14th Region, and youth coach for baseball and football in Knott County. Harold had a passion for whatever he was doing at the given time, he gave 100% all the time. Broadcasting became his passion starting in 1985 doing football telecasts for Knott County Central High School. In 1991 he began his radio career with WKCB in Hindman, KY. Harold stayed with WKCB until 2014. Harold returned to local Hometown24 and was active until his passing in April of this year. Harold was always professional in his on air manner, always keeping in mind these players were young and learning. After WKCB started doing regional games in the 14th Region Harold was very patient with coaches and player interviews asking questions with easy answers. This led to Harold being the best Play by Play man in the Mountains! As an official Harold was always on top of plays and was well versed in the rules. As a youth coach Harold once again excelled. I'm proud to say these are the truth because I was by his side for several basketball games as an official, and many, many games as his sidekick on radio and tv. I'm am looking forward to seeing Harold Mullins inducted to KHSAA Hall of Fame!!

Thank you!  
Larry Thornsberry