

# *Gary Barrett*

Mr. Gary Barrett is a 1964 Graduate of Northwest High School. While he attended elementary school in Indiana, his family moved to House Springs in 1959 when his father was relocated with Chrysler. Gary and his 7 siblings attended the Northwest School District. Gary fondly remembers his years as a student and athlete. He played four years of football and was a captain Junior and Senior year. He was also selected as Homecoming King by his fellow students. His favorite teacher was Coach Garrett who would take time to play golf and teach him the game on the weekends. Coach Garrett was a mentor and role model. Gary also met his wife Connie at Northwest. They have since been married for 53 years and have two children, Jason and Nicole, both Northwest graduates. Gary and Connie also have four grandchildren. After graduation, Gary was drafted and served in the Army in the Vietnam War and was promoted to Sergeant E-5. When his tour of duty was over, he came home, started a family, and created his own family business.

Barrett Concrete was established and developed for 35 years in Jefferson County. As Gary grew his business and family, he donated his time, labor and material to help improve the Northwest School District and the community. Barrett Concrete, guided by Gary's generosity, gave back to the community in many ways over the years:

- Improvements to the track at Northwest High School- concrete curb formed and poured for athletic field, all expenses and time were donated

- Front playground for students at Cedar Springs Elementary when the new preschool program was added

- Landscaping around the Brennan Woods Elementary sign

- On the new high school campus, Gary donated time and labor for the concrete steps from the students parking lot up to the building

- Northwest Athletic Association, Gary volunteered his time to help maintain the athletic fields, multiple weekends for many years

Gary gave of his time and resources to make his community better. A successful businessman but also still a kid at heart, Gary served many years as a volunteer coach in the community for little league baseball, softball, and basketball. Gary has also had the privilege to serve on the Northwest School Board of Education. During his time serving on the Board of Education, he was involved in the process of moving to a one-to-one initiative which allowed each student at Northwest access to their own Chromebook. He is also proud to have supported the decision to move forward with installing the turf on the high school football field knowing that it would be well worth the expense. Gary feels pride each time he sees groups of students and community members using the beautiful field. Gary has always and will always Bleed the Northwest Blue. He is well deserving of this distinguished recognition. Tonight, we are proud to introduce Mr. Gary Barrett and induct him into the Hall of Fame as a Distinguished Alumni