

1955

# CHS Bio

## Dean Davis Mr. Baseball



When I grew up I lived every young man's dreams. I played professional baseball and became a fireman.

I started my education at Paul Revere Elementary School. Most of what I encountered there I have forgotten.

My family moved to California and I finished elementary school in California. We came back when I started Junior High at Horace Mann. I remember the inside concrete playground.

Every summer I played baseball from Pee-Wee, Little League, through junior high. At Central I played on the varsity team that won State in 1955.

I played center field and my twin brother Don played first base. In the summer Don and I played American Legion baseball for Coca-Cola.

In 1956 after the high school baseball season was over **Chop Hamilton** and I were named to play in the All-State baseball game.

Within a week of graduation Don and I signed a professional baseball contract with the Chicago Cubs. We were sent to Ponca City to play in the Sooner State League. At the end of the season Don and I were then sent to Crestview, Florida to play in the Florida State League. I finished the season in Florida. For spring training we went to Mesa, Arizona and were assigned to Paris, Illinois in the Midwest League. I played part of the season in Paris and did not do very well. I was released and came back to Tulsa.

I spent 10 years in construction work and then was offered an opportunity to work at McDonnell-Douglas Tulsa in the Fire and Security Department. In the Fire Department I was trained in both structure and aircraft fire/rescue procedures. Many of these aircraft were worked on for service in Vietnam. During my time at McDonnell-Douglas the plant worked on B-52, B-66, F-4, A-4, F-15. Two B-47 electronic aircraft were at our plant for classified work. Later the Air Force converted these planes to 707's for more sophisticated equipment. There were also daily industrial fire duties. We were required to drive, maintain and operated all the fire/rescue equipment. We had 3 crash trucks and 2 structural trucks.

Many transit aircraft came through our area for security protection. Some of these were Super-Guppy and Guppy's, Harrier's and F-17 (Stealth bombers). Air Force One came to the plant for a presidential speech in our hangar. We provided some of the security and fire protection during the visit.

I retired in 1994 when McDonnell-Douglas closed their Tulsa facility. I was barely old enough to retire. It was the only time I have ever been glad I was “OLD.”

My wife taught at Nathan Hale High School in Tulsa. She taught Advance Placement Social Studies classes and was Social Studies Department Chairman and Head Academic Team coach. She retired in 1997.

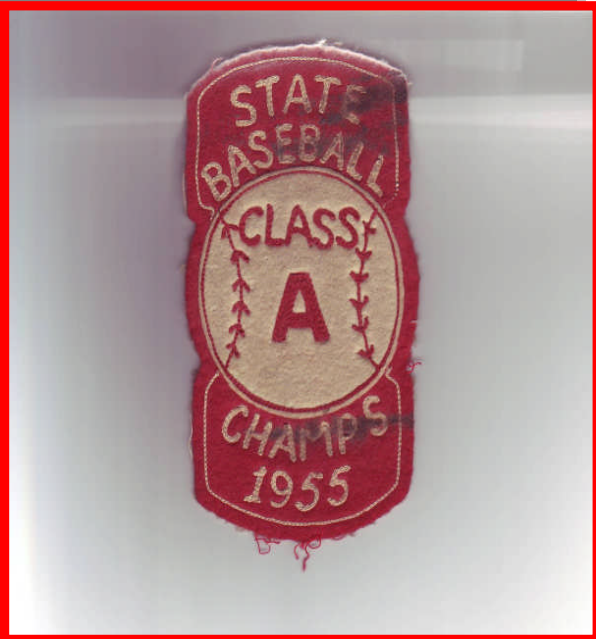
Now we do volunteer work with our church. I also, help my wife Shirrell, Anadarko (OK) High School Class of '63, with many of her volunteer duties. The Gamma Phi Beta's have made me an honorary member of the Tulsa Alumnae group.

Shirrell and I have been married 30 years and will celebrate our 31<sup>st</sup> anniversary on September 26, 2006.

We have season football tickets to the University of Oklahoma. We do enjoy going to Norman to the games. Our yearly trip to Dallas for the OU-Texas football game is always fun! The day before the game we hit the “Galleria.” I stay in one place and hold the packages, while Shirrell shops.

I have three grandchildren. Kypher is 16 and driving, Jaxon is 10 and a go-getter, and Luke is 4 and all BOY! They live in Perryton, Texas. We do not see them as much as we would like but we share e-mail pictures all the time. They are the children of my daughter Jill and her husband Brad.

We will be attending the reunion.



**A PROUD, PROUD  
MOMENT FOR CHS  
IN 1955**