

Mr. Jerry Bechtel, Class of 1955, was a class leader and dominant star athlete of Warwick High School earning 4-years of varsity letters in soccer, basketball and baseball--12 varsity letters in total. One of his teammates, Robert Lilley, "had the fortune of passing the ball to Jerry the night he scored his milestone 1,000<sup>th</sup> point." Another teammate, Ralph Bozorth, was also on the court at the time. Jerry went on to add many more points to this milestone, scoring more than 1100 in his high school career. The school newspaper, "The Ore Mine" reported that Jerry broke all but one of Warwick's basketball records. He was also a part of high school band and chorus. According to his friends, Jerry loved amusing his friends by using new vocabulary terms in sentences. He was a bit speechless at the receipt of the Owen J. Roberts Wildcat honor, however. Traveling from Illinois, Mr. Bechtel paused for a reunion basketball photo with Robert Lilley and Ralph Bozorth, whom he had not seen in 60+ years!

Jerry was a faculty member at Logan College helping develop the fitness center, health education complex and biology tutoring center. He served as head basketball coach from 1965-1969 and also coached tennis. He chaired the life science department from 1992- 2006 and earned more than one distinguished service award during his tenure at Logan.