



ADRON B. SLUDER

Educator/Principal/Local Historian/Civil Leader

Adron B. Sluder born in Hamilton County in 1895, he was the son of Mary Edith (Brendel) and Perry Sluder. He had lived in the Zionsville area all his life and died at the age of 70.

He was a most distinguished resident, a former school principal/ educator, civic leader, businessman, and church member in Zionsville. During World War I, Mr. Sluder served in the Army in France. Sluder taught history, social sciences and junior high school in Zionsville 27 years, retiring in 1948. During the years he taught junior high, he had each student write an autobiography which he also kept on file. For five of those years, 1931 through 1935, he was principal under the direction of Eagle Township Trustees- Bert Mills, George Pock and William Schofield.

After his retirement he was associated with the grocery business in Zionsville and later with Phillippi Funeral Home, Flanner & Buchanan Mortuary and the Elliott Pharmacy in Zionsville. He was a vice president and director of the Zionsville Building and Loan Association.

He had been a member of the American Legion since 1919. He was a member of the Zionsville Christian Church, Zion Masonic Lodge, Veterans of World War I and the Boone County Sesquicentennial Committee and active in the Zionsville Historical Society. He was active in organizing the first Boy Scout Troop and leading the Boy Scouting movement in Zionsville. He served as Scoutmaster, troop committeeman, and merit badge counselor. Mr. Sluder was a Charter Member, May 20, 1930, of the Zionsville Lions Club that has had the motto "We Serve".

He had compiled a history of Zionsville and collected items tracing the history of the town. He had a collection of pictures of every graduating class of Zionsville High School since 1925 and had commencement programs for every class since the first in 1888. In 1937 he built a room onto his home on Walnut Street to store and display antiques and artifacts for the general public to enjoy.

In 1962, Sluder received the Zionsville Junior Chamber of Commerce's distinguished service award for his activities as "teacher, principal, businessman, church member and amateur historian." He is buried at Little Eagle Creek Cemetery.

Compiled and nominated by Ralph W. Stacy



MEREDITH E. & MARY AMY SMITH

Professional Photography Partners/Community Service Team

Meredith & Mary Amy Smith grew up in Zionsville, spent all but the 15 years they lived in Florida (1970-1985) in Zionsville and saw the many changes that took place in the town. Meredith was born March 4, 1913 and Mary Amy was born November 7, 1914. Both are currently deceased with Mary Amy's death on February 20, 2001 and Meredith's death was November 16, 2003. Meredith and Mary Amy spent their entire schooling in the Zionsville system. Meredith's mother, Bessie Smith, a first grade teacher, taught both of her children, Meredith & Donald, her daughter-in-law, Mary Amy, and all her grandchildren, Jerry, Jenny, Mary, Martha, and Marjorie. Meredith graduated in 1931 and Mary Amy graduated in 1932. Mary Amy's family owned the furniture store in town and her grandfather ran the funeral home. Meredith's mother raised her two boys by herself as a single mother, since his father died before Meredith was born. Meredith

spent many of his high school days off working along side his uncle, Glen Ogborn, as he served Cokes and ice cream at the soda fountain counter at the corner drugstore on Main Street.

Upon completion of high school Meredith attended DePauw University in Greencastle, IN and belonged to Sigma Nu fraternity. Meredith had been interested in photography since he was about 12 or 13. He took this interest to the next level by attending Winona Lake School of Photography where he received his certificate. Mary Amy was a beautician after high school and a full time mother before becoming Meredith's partner with him in the photography studio.

Meredith and Mary Amy were business fixtures in Zionsville beginning the operation of their photography studio, Smith Studio, in 1948 until they migrated to Florida in 1970 after selling the business. Smith's Studio was in several different locations – on Main Street in the building where Marion Lowder had his insurance business, then to their home at 595 W. Ash St, and finally to 65 S. Main Street. The Studio became the official photography business for photos needed for the town of Zionsville. He took photos of momentous occasions such as the flood, the centennial, laying the bricks on Main Street, and the snow storm during sectionals. Many Zionsville residents fondly remember Meredith's photography artistry when they dust off their wedding albums. The business reached beyond the town into the Zionsville schools as well as the surrounding schools such as Carmel, Westfield, Pike, and others for their school picture days, senior photos, and proms. While Meredith was taking the photos, Mary Amy was taking care of all the orders, being sure someone's hair looked good, or just talking to the customers to get them less nervous about the upcoming photo session as well as getting the orders ready once the photos were completed. They truly had a partnership not only in business but for 65 years in marriage until Mary Amy passed away in 2001 after her battle with Alzheimer's disease.

Meredith was on several school committees, including the corporation formed to build the "new" gym. He was very active in the Zionsville Lions Club becoming President in 1944. Mary Amy's service was through Psi Iota Xi, Alpha Lambda Chapter and she served as President 1940-41. Both were members of the Zionsville United Methodist Church. Their tireless time spent on committees and helping build the new church was a way they could give back to the community they loved and serve those in need. When they returned from Florida in 1985 they seemed to pick up where they had left off fifteen years earlier by again becoming an active part of the church and other activities going on in town and at Zionsville Village Christian Parke (now Zionsville Meadows).

As their children, we feel great pride in their accomplishments during their lives in Zionsville. By Marjorie (Smith) Patton, class of 1965; Mary (Smith) Hamerin and Martha (Smith) Vail, both class of 1960; and Meredith (Jerry) Smith, class of 1955.



MR. & MRS. CHARLES MILLER

Community Servants

Charles was born February 8, 1919 in Old Augusta, IN. to Frank and Helen Langford Miller and moved with his family to Zionsville, in 1920.

His great-great-grandfather William was one of the early pioneers of Eagle Village. William came from Butler City, Ohio, 1831 to Boone County, cutting a rough path which later became the Michigan Road now State Road 421. William had the first dry goods store and later became the first postmaster.

Charles married Anne Louise Mills, born February 19, 1920. Her father was Donald Keith Mills, who was married to Ruth Neidlinger. D.K. (known by his initials) learned the merchant business from his father. Ruth, Keith, son Jack, and Anne moved to Thorntown to open another dry goods store in addition to John Mills store in Zionsville. This was a business venture through the Cruse & Mills partnership. The "Crash of 1929" spoiled the big dreams and the partnership split so the Mills family returned to Zionsville to continue the Home Store business until the year, 1956, when Keith retired.

Charles and Anne were married on April 4, 1942. They grew up across the street from each other, attended the same Eagle Township Schools- graduated in 1937 and 1938 respectively, Indiana Business College, and had years of courtship. Charles was drafted in the Army for action in World War II and served in Europe for 40 months. The first of their four children was Charlotte Ann born in 1946- died 2009, Charles Louis 1949, Donald Frank in 1951 and Sara Jane in 1956.

Both Mr. & Mrs. Miller love their Village of Zionsville, and have worked hard to be good citizens. Many hours have been given to the church as well as the Library Board, Sullivan Museum, Town's Planning Commission, Zionsville Lions Club, Psi Iota Xi-Alpha Lambda Chapter, Zionsville Methodist Church, Boone County Cancer Society. They were awarded the Distinguished Service Award and the Woman of the Year Award in 1980, an honor bestowed upon them by the Jaycees of Zionsville. In 1993 they were awarded by the Greater Zionsville Chamber of Commerce the prestigious Zionsville Town Crier.

In 1998 Annie was a member of the Zionsville Dressing Committee- Boone County Cancer Society, Inc. that was recognized by the presentation by The Greater Zionsville Chamber of Commerce the Community Service Award. Mrs. Miller was President of Psi Iota Xi in 1961-62 and much later served in the Auxiliary Chapter President in 1988-89. For many, many years Annie portrayed Mrs. Claus during Christmas in the Village. They were interview participants in an oral history of Zionsville entitled Zionsville The First One Hundred Years compiled by Joan Praed Lyons and Sandra Brock Cline. Charlie is a 56 year member of the Zionsville Lions Club, Club President in 1992, Life Member, and a Melvin Jones Fellow, 1994.

Mainly compiled from History of Boone County, Indiana- 1984 and nomination submitted by Ralph W. Stacy



ORLIN VERL COLEMAN Retired Coach & Educator

Orlin Verl Coleman, also known as the “Father of Zionsville Football”, has made many contributions to his community as an educator and coach. Born in Lexington, IN, on February 19, 1932, Orlin spent his childhood predominantly in New Castle, IN, where he developed his love for sports and played football, basketball and golf. He received a football scholarship to Western New Mexico University where he majored in secondary education, specifically the Industrial Arts and also minored in business and physical education. However, when the school had to cut some of his scholarship money due to funding and knowing that his family could not afford to pay for him along with his six siblings, Orlin left school to be drafted into the Army during the Korean War overseas in Germany. Prior to his departure, he married his wife, Norma, whom he had known since junior high school. When he came back in 1954, he regained his scholarship and was able to graduate from Western New Mexico in 1958, having made all conference in football his senior year, and winning his golf conference both junior and senior years.

That same year, they had their first child and son, Kevin. Fresh out of college and with a new baby to take care of, Orlin began teaching in Anthony, NM, where he was also the assistant football and golf coach and ran a summer swimming program. In 1960, Orlin and Norma’s daughter, Lisa, was born. It was only a year later that they had another son, Randall. With three young children, Orlin accepted a job in Zionsville, IN but not before he watched his football team go on to win the New Mexico State Championship in 1962.

Hired because of his athletic background, Orlin began working in Zionsville as an Industrial Arts teacher in 1963, although it wasn’t until 1969 before the football program began. Starting with seventh and eighth grade students, Orlin coached the football team into high school, starting out as a reserve team, or non-varsity team. It was in 1972 when Orlin began coaching his first full varsity season, which progressed to ten years as the varsity coach. During his time as coach, he led the Zionsville Eagles to two 10-0 seasons, two 9-1 seasons and two conference championships. He had a total of 79 wins and only 31 losses.

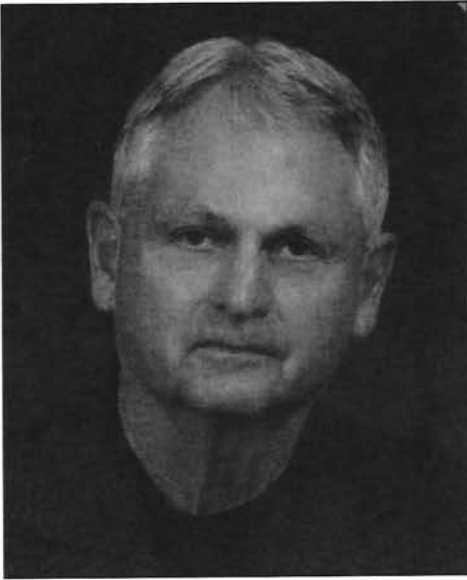
Starting in 1964, Orlin coached freshman basketball for two years before moving up to coach the junior varsity until 1978. He also started the Zionsville boy’s golf program in 1968 in which he coached until 1978 and led teams to numerous victories in conferences.

In 1978 Orlin retired from the classroom, but not as his role as an educator, as he was promoted to the Athletic Administrator of Zionsville High School. An initiative Orlin took as well was to start the Athletic Hall of Fame at Zionsville High School which recognized the teams and individuals whose outstanding performance warrant them a little piece of Zionsville history by placing their picture on a wall in the hallway. Orlin occupied the title as Athletic Director until his retirement in 1994. That same year he received the title as Athletic Administrator of the Year by the Indiana Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association.

Since his retirement, Orlin has received several awards. He was inducted into the Zionsville High School Football Hall of Fame in 2006 and in 2011, the Zionsville High School Gold Hall of Fame. Today he still lives in Zionsville where he continues his love for sports by working at the Zionsville Golf Course. He lives with his wife and spends time with his three children – all of whom have gone on to marry – and his six grandchildren.

Orlin always challenged his players and coaches to follow his lead. He set the bar high in the areas of integrity and sportsmanship. He was a fantastic coach, role model and mentor. He was my coach for four seasons of football and basketball. It was during this time that he had a tremendous affect on my growth as a young man as well as my next thirty three years as a coach and teacher. I have always felt his influence as a coach helped me make my career decision. It is for these reasons that I nominate Orlin Coleman to receive this well deserved honor.

Nominated by Gary Rabb



SAM FIX

Retired Educator, Coach, & Friend

Sam Fix is the son of the late Homer D. and Gwendolen Gray Fix, Sam was born on January 9, 1938 in Shelbyville, Indiana. Sam had a younger sister Gwendolen Kern, died 2009(Darrel Kern) of Marion, Iowa, a twin brother Dan (Helen) who resides in Zionsville and an older brother Jerry (Marcia) who lives in East Hampton, Massachusetts. Sam is an uncle to 15, and great uncle to 21 immediate family members. He has a multitude of friends that he treats just like family. To this day he still cuts wood, sells and delivers firewood with one of his Zionsville High School friend, Gerald Rhoades also of the Class of 1956.

Sam graduated from Zionsville High School in 1956, as a proud Zionsville Eagle graduate and was President of his Senior Class. He continued his education and graduated from DePauw in 1960 with a B.A. in Education, then received his Masters Degree in Education from Indiana Central College in Indianapolis. A United States Marine Corps. Veteran, a member of the Francis Neidlinger Post #79, American Legion and a lifetime member of Zionsville United Methodist Church.

Sam began his teaching career at North Salem High School in 1962 teaching Social Studies, Drivers Training and Physical Education for 2 years and then for 28 years being an integral part of the Zionsville Community School Corporation as an educator, coach and Athletic Director of the Zionsville Middle School. Sam loved being an educator and working with the kids, parents and faculty for three decades. During the summers he was able to continue to nurture young people by managing the Zionsville Arbywood Farm, 37 years, which provided summer employment for several hundred of Zionsville youth.

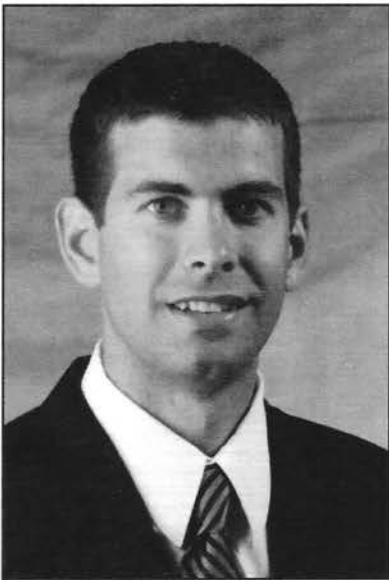
He organized and is a director of The Homer and Gwendolen Fix Memorial Euchre Tournament, ongoing for 17 years which provides College Scholarships to many Zionsville students. Sam's Dad was an exceptional Euchre player but Sam loves to play but he could not match his Dad's playing ability even today.

Sam has been a benefactor to many great causes in our community over the years. He served on the Board of Directors of the Patrick Henry Sullivan Museum for 22 years and 9 years as President of the Board. He assisted with the upkeep of Sheets Cemetery for at least a decade. He is a very strong supporter of the Zionsville Alumni Association since it began.

Sam just like Zionsville Alumni Association "cherishes the school and its heritage, supports its goals and aspirations, models its virtues and above all else, values the school's dedication to educating ethical, compassionate leaders for the future."

Nominated by Jeff Ottinger & Friends

Compiled by Ralph W. Stacy



BRAD STEVENS

Collegiate Basketball Coach

Brad Stevens, collegiate basketball coach and son of Dr. Mark and Jan Stevens born October 22, 1976 in Greenville S.C. Brad is a Zionsville Community High School graduate in 1995. Stevens played high school basketball at Zionsville, setting four school records in career scoring, assists, steals and three-point goals. He was also a member of National Honor Society.

He earned a B.A. degree in Economics from DePauw in 1999. He was a four – year member of the basketball team at DePauw, a Division III level college, earning the squad’s “Coaches Award” in 1998-99.

He and his wife, Tracy, have two children, son Brady, 5, and daughter Kinsley, 2. Brad, 34, was introduced as the new men’s basketball head coach at Butler University on April 4, 2007, just three days after his former boss, Todd Lickliter, was named head coach at the University of Iowa. Brad became third consecutive former Butler assistant coach to be named head coach of the Bulldogs, and he served under the previous two- Thad Matta and Lickliter. He joined the Bulldogs’ staff in 2000-01 as coordinator of basketball operations, handling a variety of administrative duties. He was offered a full-time assistant coaching position by Lickliter in 2001-02. The Butler coach left a position as a marketing associate at Eli Lilly and Company in Indianapolis to pursue a career in coaching basketball. He served in a volunteer capacity in Butler’s basketball office during the summer of 2000, before eventually gaining a full-time administrative position under Matta.

In his debut season of 2007-08, Brad helped Butler become the first team in school and Horizon League history to record 30 wins! Only three coaches in NCAA Division 1 history- Bill Guthridge, North Carolina(34), Bill Hodges, Indiana State(33) and Jamie Dixon, Pittsburgh (31)- posted more first-year wins than the Butler coach. And at 31, Stevens became the third- youngest Division 1 coach to guide his team to 30 wins- the youngest in more than half a century!

This new coaching icon led his team to the NCAA Championship Game the past two years. He is a promoter of “The Butler Way- selflessness, hard work, servant hood and humility.” Brad is a member of St. Luke’s United Methodist Church in Indianapolis. He and his wife Tracy have actively supported the Crossroads of America Council, Boy Scouts of America; American Cancer Society, Interfaith Hunger Initiative, Jukes Foundation for Kids and other worthy causes. At the Zionsville Rotary Club 25th Anniversary in May Brad was honored by the Zionsville Town Council, which officially made May 12 Brad Stevens Day.

These past years one could read about Brad Stevens and Butler in the Washington Post, USA Today, Chicago Sun-Times, and Philadelphia Daily News. Indianapolis Star, Zionsville Times Sentinel and many other news periodicals. Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels said Stevens and team were “the best advertisement Indiana ever had”.

Compiled and nominated by Ralph W. Stacy