

Richard Harmison

Richard Harmison began his career at Martinsburg High School in 1960. He graduated from Romney High School in 1945 where he excelled in football and basketball. He joined the Army Air Force in 1945 and played football for two years later attending Potomac State College and Shepherd College where he was a 1951 graduate. Coach was inducted in both the Potomac State and Shepherd College Hall of Fames.

In 1960 he was the head football and track coach at MHS. By 1964, he had so many players wanting to play football that he had to have a preliminary camp to reduce the numbers down from 160 plus to 120. In 1965 his record was 8-1-1. During his coaching tenure he won many Tri-State and Cumberland Valley Athletic League titles. He was one of the first coaches in the area to have student athletes to go on to play college football. Coach Harmison started the Bulldog wrestling program in 1965. While at MHS he won the Martinsburg Journal and Sentinel Coach of the year numerous times.

He left Martinsburg High School in 1966 to coach at the collegiate level at Virginia Military Institute and later coaching for William and Mary.

Coach Harmison has spent fifty consecutive years playing or coaching football. He has coached with greats like Marv Levy, Lou Holtz, Bobby Ross and Bill Stewart.

Coach continues to remain in contact with the MHS Class of 1965 and returns for their class reunions. He remains a positive role model to each of these former students and continues to coach them in life.