

Central District Hall of Fame Induction

Bruce Shidler

March 8, 2024

I am happy to introduce Bruce today. I just want to tell you a little bit about him. When he asked me to do his introduction, it was met with surprise by some. But who knows him better than me? I have been with him to celebrate his wins and listen to him after his losses – sometimes at length. At times I hear him say, “One shot short. Just that one shot and we could have won.” He would tell new players that every shot is important. Don’t let up!

I met Bruce our sophomore year when our schools consolidated. He had already developed his athletic talents and his love of competition. He loved to have fun. He had perfect attendance for 12 years but it wasn’t because he loved the education part. He was funny and had the most beautiful finger waves in his hair!!! But beyond his awards and popularity, he was a friend to everyone. Just like the TV show “Cheers”, “everyone knows his name...”

But graduating and getting married forces you to grow up fast. He was a Union Pipefitter for 40 years. Being with his various coworkers made it enjoyable most of the time, He had time to farm, help raise our family, work, help with 4-H animals, and still have fun. He channeled his competitive drive into coaching and then following our daughter Stephanie thru her athletic career.

Time passed and family time and a grandson filled the years. Stefanies’ life partner, Tecia, joined the family. Angie and Trenton lived next to us and life was full.

Retirement finally arrived and we looked forward to time together. Bruce is going to talk about this in a minute.

He cares deeply about this sport. He cares about building others up and not letting them be degraded and criticized by other players. This great game is not about building yourself up by stepping on someone else! He is a good, kind man and I am very proud of him.

Presenter: Lucinda Shidler