

Doug Balkum

Doug is a member of the West Columbia High School graduating class of 1952. He is being inducted tonight as a player and coach.

Doug was a member of the '51 Roughneck District Champion Baseball team that finished with a 15-5 record.

Doug received his college degree from Texas Christian University in Fort Worth where he was also a standout performer on TCU's baseball team. During his Junior season he was a successful pitcher on the Horned Frogs team that won the Southwest Conference crown. As a Senior he received All-Southwest Conference honors as he posted a 7-1 record and also led the Horned Frogs in hitting with a .417 batting average.

After graduation from TCU Doug reported to Ft. Knox for Army training followed by 8 years of reserve duty and discharge with the rank of Captain.

In August of 1958, Doug returned to his hometown to embark on a 10 year teaching and coaching career. Doug coached football, basketball, baseball, track, golf, and acted as athletic trainer. In his first year as Roughneck baseball skipper he coached the Necks to a District Championship in 1959. His 1966 baseball team had a record of 25-7 and advanced to the regional finals and lost a best 2 of 3 series to Brenham. The Roughneck baseball team compiled a record of 91-45-1 under the direction of Doug Balkum.

After leaving West Columbia, Doug went on to teach and coach at Alvin, became a counselor at Alvin HS, became a counselor at Alvin Community College, and served as Director of Student

Services for ten years at Alvin Community College before retiring in 1990. Doug has been active in Alvin youth baseball and served 6 years on the Alvin City Council.

Doug has been married to the former Darlene Barrow for 56 years. They have one son, David, and two daughters, Laurianne and Lesleigh.