



Henry MacKenzie

July 9, 1937 - August 12, 2014

Obituary of Henry MacKenzie

On August 12, 2014, Gordon MacKenzie passed away. Born July 9, 1937, he was a man of baseball. At age 18, Gordon began his career as a player. He was signed as an amateur free agent in 1956 by the Kansas City Athletics. He made his major league debut on August 13, 1961 against the Chicago White Sox and played in 11 games that year. The following year, his sister, Murle, won the U.S. Womens Open while playing on the LPGA tour.

His career then shifted in the mid 1960's. In Geneva, NY, beginning with the New York-Penn League, Gordon began managing at the minor league level as well as coaching in the majors with clubs such as Senators, Mets, Expos, Royals, Cubs, Indians, Giants, and Astros winning several divisions and championships throughout his profession. Whether it was managing, coaching, scouting, or instructional duties, baseball was his true calling in life while having an influence and impact at various levels on so many kids and young men year after year after year.

He enjoyed one of his biggest breaks when he was hired as the third base coach for KC Royals in 1980. That same year, they went on to win the

American League and played for the World Series. He also experienced coaching seasons at the major league level with Cubs and Giants.

Although his love of baseball was great, it was second to his love of family. Even though seasons at home in Fruitland Park, FL were short, he spent many quality hours on the farm with his wife Nancy, kids and grandkids tending his livestock and a variety of other animals.

Gordon was preceded in death by his sister Margaret MacKenzie Niles and son Eric MacKenzie. Survived by his sister, Murle MacKenzie Breer; wife, Nancy MacKenzie; sons, Scott MacKenzie, Kenny MacKenzie (Deana MacKenzie) and daughter Amy Pavia (Barry Pavia) and 8 grandchildren.

A Memorial Service will be held Saturday, August 23, 2014 at Heritage Community Church in Fruitland Park, FL at 1:00 pm.

If one chooses, in lieu of flowers, a donation to St. Jude's Hospital is welcomed.

Services

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Memorial Donations

If one chooses, in lieu of flowers, a donation to St. Jude's Hospital is welcomed.

Tribute Wall

DF

“ We are so sorry for your tremendous loss and your family is in our thoughts and prayers at this time.

Debbie Jones Miller and family - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TR

“ My thoughts and Prayers are with you all through this very very difficult time...May you find comfort and peace knowing so many deeply care and love you all..

Tami Boyce Roosa - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ I am very saddened to hear this. Mr mackenzie was a man with a big heart and loved to teach the game of baseball. Condolences to his family on their loss

kelly collins - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ I would like to express my thoughts and prayers to the entire family. Retired Teacher & Coach @ Leesburg H.S.

Bill Hayes - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. What a great man. He will be missed by all who knew him and loved him. God Bless each of you during this difficult time!

Thom & Linda Weekley - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ To the MacKenzie Family, the whole community grieves with you. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Your father meant the world to anyone associated with baseball in Leesburg. On behalf of Leesburg Baseball, thank you for sharing your father with us. Whether teaching youth at his clinics, supplying baseballs in the thousands to the high school, or donating Iron Mikes to the college, high school, and the City; he was always there for his community. He was one of a kind, and will be missed by all. God Bless

Roger Croft - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM