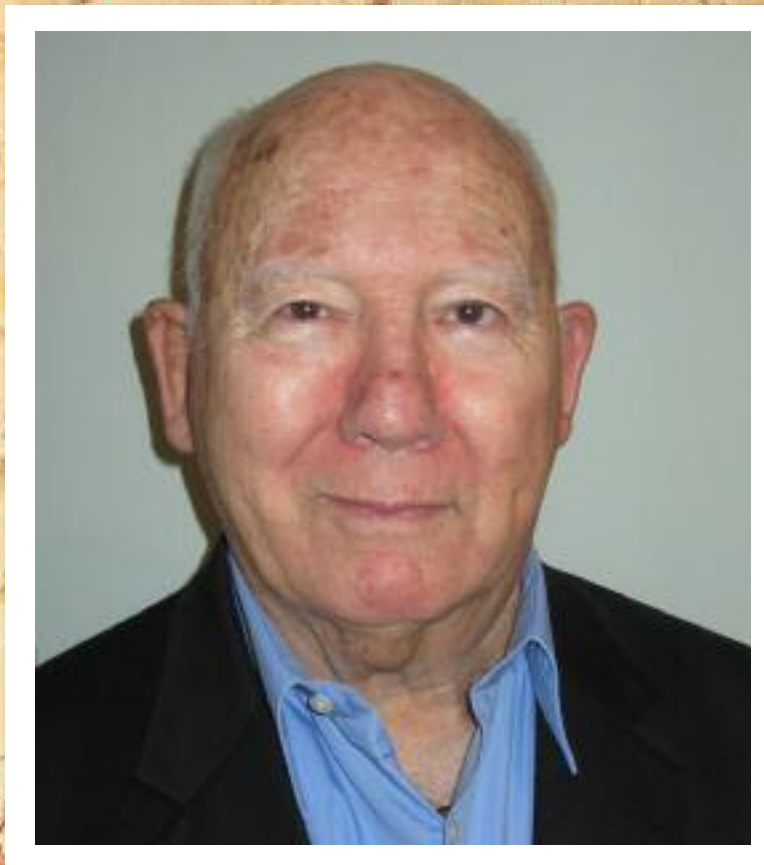


Jerry HARRELL



Jerry started his wrestling career at Mepham High School, under the legendary Sprig Gardner. He was a mainstay for 3 years on one of the Mepham's great teams. He highlighted his career by becoming a Long Island Champion in his senior year.

At Gettysburg College, he played football and wrestled, winning the 167 weight class in the Middle Atlantic Wrestling Championships. Upon graduation, Jerry served 3 years in the Army Transportation Corps., stationed in France.

In 1960, he was hired to teach and start a wrestling program at the brand new Udall Jr. High School, in West Islip. At the same time, Jerry became an active mat official, working meets and tournaments in both Nassau and Suffolk. In 1962, Pete Damone asked Jerry to coach the newly formed Hofstra College Freshman Wrestling team. This gave him an opportunity to work with a

number of talented young men, including Sam Boone, Tony Mellino, Rich Cestaro, and Tom Ricolo.

In 1964, Jerry accepted a teaching/coaching position in the Port Jefferson School district where he was asked again to develop a wrestling program. Two years later, he received a call to start another new program. This time, it came from St. Anthony's in Smithtown. It was here that Jerry settled in for a long stay. It took time, a great deal of patience and hard work, but the results were well worth the effort. Starting from "scratch", Jerry was able to build a program that produced 25 Catholic School State Champions, 54 CHSAA State Place winners, 41 Catholic League Champions, 74 league place winners, plus 2 Catholic School League State Championship teams. Today, as the results of Jerry Harrell's determination and coaching skills, St. Anthony's wrestling team continues to enjoy great success.