

## Jack Wilson

Few coaches have ever enjoyed the success that Jack Wilson has as head boys basketball coach at Clearwater High School.

Wilson led the Tornades to an incredible 508-99 record an .837 percent winning percentage, and one state championship over a seventeen year period. During that same period Clearwater recorded twenty or more victories a season for all but one of those years. Jack's coached basketball for twenty seven years. He coached 764 high school games before retiring in 1985.

Jack was born on August 27, 1936 in Omar, West Virginia. He was cut from his eighth grade basketball team and initially refused to try out for the ninth grade team. His older brother convinced him to give it another shot. He did and ended his high school career as all state center. He then attended Anderson College in Indiana where he rewrote the school's scoring records three straight years. During his college days, he decided to be a basketball coach.

Jack's first coaching job was at Zephyrhills High school in 1958. In four years he took his team from games played on an outdoor courts to the state championship. In the fall of 1962 he took the job as head coach at Madison Heights High School in Anderson, Indiana. He coached there until 1966 and then returned to Florida as the head coach at Titusville High School.

Coach Wilson's career record was 585 wins and 179 losses. It included two state championships, one state runner up finish, six regional championships, thirteen district titles and seventeen conference championships.

Coach Wilson passed away in 1985 at the age of forty-nine. His legacy live on at CHS in the Gym, which is named after him, but is affectionately known as "the House that Jack Built"