



Arnold Torgerson, Jr.

November 20, 1931 - April 6, 2020

Arnold Torgerson, Jr. of Fort Collins, Colorado—known to his many friends as “Tommy” and many more as “Coach”, and still more as “Torgy”—passed away peacefully and unexpectedly at home on April 6, 2020; at the age of 88 years.

Born in Denver, Colorado on November 20, 1931; Torgy attended South Denver High School, earned his Bachelor’s Degree in Mathematics at the University of Colorado, and his Master’s Degree at Colorado State University. A devoted teacher and impassioned athletics coach, Torgy worked at Delta High School from 1950 – 1957 and Fort Collins High School from 1957 – 1987. He proudly served as Director of the Colorado High School Coaches Association and Director of the Colorado All-State Games from 1987 – 2003. He was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2003 for Lifetime Achievement, and served as President of the Colorado Chapter of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. Torgy continued to volunteer his time and experience for a wide variety of athletic and social events throughout his life. The last such event being the annual 2020 Fort Collins High School “Arnold Torgerson Invitational Wrestling Tournament”.

Torgy was preceded in death by his parents Arnold Sr. and Mary (Wallace) Torgerson, and beloved wife, Barbara “Bobbie” who he married in September, 1951. He is survived by their six children: Linda (Dion) Gonzales in Kona, Hawaii, Steve (Laurie Enright) Torgerson in San Luis Obispo, California,

Debra (Salvatore) Capra in Arvada, Colorado, Jeff (Doreen) Torgerson in Norman, Oklahoma, Laura "Lola" (Manny Fimbres) Torgerson in La Paz, Mexico, and Annette (Frank) Torgerson-Anderson in Boise, Idaho. He will also be dearly missed by his six grandchildren: Landon and Sheridan Torgerson, Jenna and Anthony Capra, and Brian and Christina Anderson. Torgy is also survived by his loving Sister, Arlene Drewes in Annapolis, Maryland, and her 3 daughters, Kristy, Katrina and Karen.

As per his wishes, Torgy will be cremated. A memorial celebration of his life will be scheduled at a future date, determined appropriate to gather in celebration. In lieu of flowers, a future donation to a proposed Arnold Torgerson memorial scholarship fund would be appreciated.

Tribute Wall

LC

“ *Coach Torgerson was my favorite high school coach. I loved his subtle sense of humor, and his ability to convey the feeling that he believed in my potential. I would up my effort when he was present.*
Larry Caswell

Larry Caswell - April 12, 2020 at 11:19 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Lola Torgerson - April 11, 2020 at 11:07 AM

ST

“ *1 file added to the album Torgy in Photos*



Steve Torgerson - April 11, 2020 at 10:59 AM

TB

“ *Wrestling has lost a true champion & strong leader. You will be missed Torgy.*

Tom Beeson - April 10, 2020 at 11:14 PM

JB

“ Very sorry to hear of Torgy's passing. For many years he did so much for the Colorado High School Coaches Association and he was not only a mentor but a loyal friend to many, many coaches. He was a one of a kind and will be sorely missed. John Burke

John Burke - April 10, 2020 at 09:47 PM

JA

“ Coach Torg, I'll miss you more than words can express. Loved you as a teacher, coach, mentor, colleague and lastly as a friend. I enjoyed our recent dinners with the wrestling crew, and burgers on your back patio. Wrestling season will not be the same without you. Rest In Peace my friend! “Luv ya babe”
Joe Ahlbrandt

Joe Ahlbrandt - April 10, 2020 at 10:47 AM

EK

“ Rest in peace, Coach Torgerson. Thank you for your patience in the classroom when you knew I was struggling. Thank you for your "motivation" in the wrestling room when you knew I wasn't pushing myself. Most of all, thank you for some sound advice you once gave me in an empty high school hallway. My condolences to your family. Eric Kaltenberger (FCHS 1986)

Eric Kaltenberger - April 10, 2020 at 10:39 AM

JT

“ I am just one of a solid and loving family unit which lost a large piece of myself this week. As all Fathers should, my Dad provided me with important life lessons every day of my youth, while giving me the tools to lead a successful life and appreciate all I experience along the way, as another life lesson to pass along. Dad gave me the foundation of goodness through discipline and love. My solace at this time, is simply knowing that my Father has finally joined my Mother in Heaven, and every time I see a beautiful sky above, I'll know that they are once again, after so many years of joyful or sad times, dancing joyfully together justas they did at their High School Prom. Thank you Dad, from your second Son, fourth of six children. Love. Forever. Jeff

jeff torgerson - April 09, 2020 at 09:06 PM

TB

Wrestling has lost a true champion & strong leader. We will you Torge.

Tom Beeson - April 10, 2020 at 11:05 PM

BG

Torgy was a valued colleague and long-time friend of my dad, Jim Luallen. We were honored to have him attend my mother's memorial service this past summer. What a very special gentleman who impacted so many lives in very positive ways. That is a powerful legacy!

Betsy Graves - April 11, 2020 at 06:15 PM

BL

We have lost a true champion of Colorado wrestling. Torgy was always happy to talk about the good old days as well as where our sport was headed. He will be greatly missed by all that love wrestling in this great state.

Stan and Blair Lampe

Blair Lampe - April 15, 2020 at 12:34 PM

KO

Sorry to hear of Mr. Torgerson's passing. He was one of my math teachers in high school. He was fun in class but expected you to get your work right. He attended our 50th class reunion (Fort Collins High School - class of 62) and looked younger than many of our classmates. He will be missed.

Karen Ardueser Oenning

Karen Ardueser Oenning - April 22, 2020 at 09:33 PM

LT

“ 59 files added to the album *Torgy in Photos*



Laura A Torgerson - April 09, 2020 at 07:57 PM