

## Naming Facility for Coach Howard Dorman

**Background:**

Legendary BK coach Howard Dorman passed away on August 25 of this year. I granted his family permission to use our softball field for the funeral service. Howard Dorman's funeral service was held at 11:00 A.M. on Thursday, September 2, in our softball stadium.

Coach Dorman was a successful high school softball and girls' basketball coach. In softball he compiled a 1,019-429 record at Woden-Crystal Lake and Belmond-Klemme, led 11 teams to the state tournament, and won state titles in 1962 and 1963. He was named National Softball Coach of the Year in 1997, joined the Iowa Softball Coaches Hall of Fame in 1992, and coached 18 all-state players.

In basketball he took Belmond teams to the six-on-six state tournament in 1976, 1977, 1978 and 1979. In 1977, Belmond knocked off Number-one-rated Ankeny 64-48.

The *Belmond Independent* in Dorman's obituary described him thusly:

“But for all of those impressive statistics, Howard's lasting legacy is the scores of students he nurtured, supported and taught over decades of coaching, teaching and working as a guidance counselor. Many reached out over the years to tell him how playing on his teams shaped their lives for the better. They saw him as more than a coach. He was a mentor who taught them lessons that proved valuable far beyond the softball diamond.”

**Recommended Action:**

Coach Dorman's granddaughter Ashley Dorman inquired if the school board would have an interest in naming some part of the softball field to honor the Hall of Fame coach, e.g., the bleachers, a dugout, etc.