

817 S. Ludwig Avenue
Gibsonburg, Ohio 43431
November 19, 2009

Ohio High School Football Coaches Association
Hall of Fame Committee
C/O Jim Barre
Wyoming High School
106 Penderly Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45215

Dear Committee Members:

It is with deep respect for Herb J. Redding that I write this letter asking you to seriously consider him for induction into the Ohio High School Football Coaches Hall of Fame.

As a player for Coach Redding and a student for Principal Redding during the turbulent 1960's, it is now clearly evident to me that his devotion to team, individuals, school, community, and country was truly extraordinary. His emphasis on hard work, perseverance, responsibility, and loyalty transcended from the playing field, to the classroom, to living a life of quality with meaningful purpose.

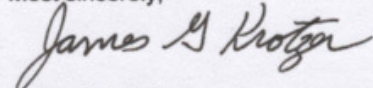
With his coaching talents, academic wisdom, and administrative skills, Mr. Redding could have moved on to bigger places and higher paying jobs. Fortunately for Gibsonburg, he chose to make his life here and enriched the lives of all who have known him. As a former teacher and coach myself, I realize that the lessons learned on the football field were not just about the game, but about life itself. No one taught those lessons better than Herb J. Redding.

He was never just a coach and teacher. He was and remains today, a friend, mentor, supporter, and role model to all who know him. His name is found on the invitation list of virtually every important event, ceremony, or celebration in our area. He is a man of impeccable character and integrity who has always realized and taught that the little things in life are really the big things. Like my own father, I truly believe that men like Mr. Redding had a major role in shaping my life as an elected public official and a longtime active volunteer in the community and at church. I believe their examples have set me on the path I have followed through life, knowing that service to others is the key to making the world a better place.

While Herb J. Redding remembers his players and the teams they played on with remarkable detail, he also remembers and knows beyond just name recognition the many non-athletes he had as students. How fitting it is that our new middle school-high school complex bears the Redding name. Coaches, especially exemplary ones, model and build character in the young athletes they nurture, athletically and otherwise. I can think of no coach I have known since those many decades ago when I myself was an athlete who has demonstrated this more fully to so many.

It is without reservation and with exceptional pride that I recommend that Herb J. Redding be inducted into the Ohio High School Football Coaches Hall of Fame. In my humble opinion, he ranks with the best of the best!

Most sincerely,



James G. Krotzer,
Class of 1966 – Gibsonburg High School