

# **Coach Park Turner, Head Track Coach—Parkview years 1976-1991**

## **Education**

### **Grady High School, Class of 1956**

- Lettered in four varsity sports his junior & senior seasons
- Captain of the football team, 1955
- Captain of the basketball team, 1955-1956
- All-City Football Team, 1955
- All-City Baseball Team, 1956
- All-State Football Team Alternate, 1955

### **University of South Carolina, BS Ed., Class of 1961**

- Baseball team, 1957
- Football team, 1956-1961; 3 year letterman (58-60)

### **Georgia Southern College, M.Ed., Class of 1971**

## **Coaching Career**

### **East Atlanta High School, 1961-65 (City of Atlanta)**

- Varsity football, B-team baseball, 8<sup>th</sup> grade basketball

### **Marist High School, 1965-1967**

- Varsity football, 9<sup>th</sup> grade basketball, Varsity baseball

### **Lakeside High School, 1967-1973 (DeKalb County)**

- Varsity football (State Champions 1970 & 1972)
- Varsity baseball (Region-runners up 6 out of 7 seasons)

### **Peachtree High School, 1973-1976 (DeKalb County)**

- Head football coach, Varsity track

### **Parkview High School, 1976-1991**

- Head track coach, Varsity football
  - 4 Gwinnett County Track & Field Championships
  - 2 Region Championships
  - 3 individual state champions (Discus, High Jump, Pole Vault)
  - Numerous track invitational championships
  - 4 time Gwinnett County Track & Field Coach of the Year
  - 2 time Region Coach of the Year
  - Atlanta Track Club Coach of the Year

### **Gwinnett Alternative School, 1991-1993**

# Personal

## Married Vivian Brandenburg, 1961

- Daughter, Debra Turner Robinson, Parkview Class of '81
- Daughter, Patricia Kimbrough Jester, Parkview class of '83
- Three grandchildren
  - William Lucius "Luke" Jester (born in 2000)
  - Ashleigh Robinson (born in 2001)
  - Rhenay Robinson (born in 2003)

**Coach Turner and his wife, Vivian, currently reside in the Villages retirement community in Florida.**

*When I began this endeavor, Kelly Taylor told me I needed to look up Coach Turner and check out what he had done because he obviously meant a lot to these guys in front of you, and countless other student-athletes all over the place.*

*I called Jerry Arnold, a longtime former coach and advocate for track & field in GA, and asked him if he knew Coach Turner. Jerry has been affectionately referred to as the Godfather of track for a long time. Jerry's response to me was, "Do I know Park Turner? Oh yes. He is the real godfather of Gwinnett County track & field. I looked up to him as a mentor and trailblazer in track & field for years."*

*Jerry thanked me for making sure that Coach Turner got recognized, but the real thanks go to Kelly Taylor and his teammates for not letting us forget about Coach Turner before time got away from us.*

*Coach Turner's career at Parkview was 25 years. Knowing how much influence a coach/teacher can have in a one season, I cannot fathom what Park did for this community during his tenure but it is still evident in many conversations today.*

*Head football coach & Parkview alumni Eric Godfree (class of '94) said, "Coach Turner? Heck yeah I remember him! His last year was my freshman year!"*

*Coach Henson*