



**Neal Lineman** was a 1952 graduate of Greenville High School where he was a 2-time letterman in football and a 4-time letterman in wrestling. He wrestled in the state tournament as a freshman in 1949 and was District 10 Champion in 1949, 1951, and 1952. His high school wrestling record was 44-6. He graduated from Purdue in 1961 where he lettered in 1959 and 1960. He was the Indiana State AAUA wrestling champion at 132 pounds in 1958.

Neal began his coaching career at Reynolds High School in 1961 where he also taught physical education. In his 16 years as head coach, he guided the Raiders to a record of 201 wins and 10 losses. He had 10 unbeaten seasons, 10 team Section and County Championships, 77 individual Section champs, 27 individual District Champs, 11 Regional Champs, five PIAA State Champs, five PIAA State runners up, and three PIAA State third places.

Coach Lineman was named Section 3 and District 10 Coach of the Year 9 times and PA State Class “B” Coach of the Year in 1975. In 1977 he led Reynolds to a PA State Team AA Championship and was named PA State Class AA Coach of the Year and Dapper Dan Coach of the United States Wrestling Team vs. Pennsylvania.

Neal was inducted into the PA Wrestling Coaches Hall of Fame in 1982, the Mercer County Hall of Fame in 1983, and the National Wrestling Hall of Fame—PA Chapter in 2001. Throughout his coaching career he coached three High School All Americans and three former wrestlers that became College All Americans.

Neal and his wife of 62 years, Mary, have three children—Robyn Weaver, Vicki Hildebrand, and David Lineman. He has five grandchildren and one great grandchild. His grandson, Michael Lineman, had a stellar career as a former Trojan wrestler.

A favorite moment from his coaching career was in 1977 when Neal was awarded the PA State Coach of the Year, and at the same ceremony his Greenville High School wrestling coach, Mel Berry, was inducted into the Pennsylvania Wrestling Hall of Fame. It was a very emotional moment for two legendary coaches.

Coach Lineman’s words to live by: “Never turn your back on your opponent.”