

SCOTT O'LEARY

Scott O'Leary's professional colleagues called him the guru of coaches, and his teams affectionately nicknamed him "Coach O". Beyond these descriptions, the mark he made on the lives of the students during his 34 years (1969-2003) as coach, teacher and athletic director at Dos Pueblos High School was indelible. Noted for his even keel and steady moral compass, Scott was a man who cared most deeply that every boy and girl who played a sport at Dos Pueblos learn from it and feel good about the experience. However, he also looked beyond athletics and encouraged his students to spread their wings academically and in other areas of interest. He encouraged every student to participate in multiple teams and clubs—whether they were athletic, academic or performance groups.

Although he coached other sports and served as head baseball coach, head football coach and A.D. from 1985-89, the baseball diamond was his favorite playground; one well suited to his analytical skills and background. He was a graduate of UCLA where he was catcher of the Bruin baseball team and coach of the freshman baseball team. While Scott didn't focus on records, his as DP coach were impressive. He had over 350 career wins in baseball and led 14 CIF playoff teams, 4 Channel League Champion teams and one CIF Finalist team. In addition, he served on numerous local and statewide boards and committees until his death in 2003.

Perhaps one of his former players summed him up best when he wrote about him on his college application essay. "Scott O'Leary was born to coach, but he was also a Renaissance man. He had no interest in building one dimensional-players. He believed whatever we were interested in, not just baseball, is what we should be doing. Coach O knew that I loved being on stage as much as I loved being on the baseball field, and he supported me in doing both. His ability to use coaching to communicate and as a metaphor for life, made an impact on every student he had. It was never just about baseball. And, now, as I prepare to leave the playing field of my childhood, I'm ready to play the game Coach O always intended me to play."