



LEGACY FUND

ADVANCING THE TRADITION OF DRURY ATHLETICS

LEGACY LEADER

Kenny Dunlap

In 1951 the New York Yankees signed a tall lanky right hand pitcher from Bartlesville, Oklahoma. Little did they know the Drury Legacy they would begin. Kenny Dunlap signed that contract which required him to leave Oklahoma A&M and attend a college in Springfield, Missouri, to be closer to the training sight of the Yankees. The choice was between Southwest Missouri State and Drury College. It was an easy decision for Dunlap. He felt a calling to attend Drury, where he majored in Mathematics/Education and also played for the Panther basketball team alongside his soon-to-be life long friend, Bill Harding.

Kenny Dunlap met Levah Bishop of Springfield on campus and in December of 1953 they were married in Drury's Stone Chapel. After his graduation Kenny and Levah chased the dream of professional baseball for a short time before returning to Bartlesville to join the family company: Dunlap Construction. They began their family, too, and three sons later (Mike, Tom and Jim) homecoming at Drury was a must event for the family every year. All three sons attended Drury basketball camps in the summers, under the direction of Panther head coach Bill Harding (1965-71), and the Legacy continued.

In 1980, Jim made the decision to attend Drury on a golf scholarship awarded from Bill Harding, now Drury's Athletic Director. Lettering all four years in golf, Jim also served as equipment manager for the Panther basketball team. Once again a Bartlesville's native was on the Drury team.

In June, 2010 the Dunlap family lost its leader when Levah passed away after nearly 58 years with Kenny. In April 7, 2013, Kenny and Jim watched together the great accomplishment of the Panthers' NCAA-II National Basketball Championship. There was not a dry eye around as we both enjoyed watching former Bartlesville High School Coach, Steve Hesser, cut down the nets.

This Legacy Fund Sponsorship is furnished by Jim Dunlap (Class of '84). It is in memory of my mother, the late Levah Bishop Dunlap, my father, Kenny (both from the Drury Class of '52) and my family: my wife, Pam and our children Harrison, Preston, and Avery...one of which may be the Drury Class of ???? May the legacy continue!



LEGACY STUDENT-ATHLETE

Paige Wilson ('17), Women's Basketball

Kenny Dunlap, along with the entire Dunlap Family, has selected Paige Wilson as their legacy student-athlete. Paige came to Drury in the fall of 2013 from Bartlesville, Oklahoma. A four-year starter at the point guard position for Bartlesville High School, Paige was her high school's all-time leading scorer, was a two-time All-State selection and was a McDonald's All-American nominee. She led BHS to a pair of regional championships while graduating with a 3.7 grade point average. Kenny Dunlap and his family enjoyed watching Paige in high school and look forward to watching her career as a Lady Panther unfold in the coming years.



"I am very honored to be selected by Kenny Dunlap as his legacy student-athlete. He has watched me play throughout high school and what better way to be picked than to have someone that personally knows you. I am extremely blessed to be chosen for this award by Mr. Dunlap. I want to personally thank him and his family for their support."

– Paige Wilson