

Bill Renner

Much of Bill's adult life involved aquatics, both in coaching and instruction. He lettered in swimming at the University of Cincinnati and coached swimming at Western Hills High School, and swimming/water polo at Princeton High School. His overall coaching record of 237 wins and 39 losses speaks for itself. He was chosen as Ohio Swimming Coach of the year in 1977 and 1980, and was selected as the Greater Miami Coach of the year in 1981.

He managed pools, and oversaw/taught swimming lessons to children and adults at swim clubs, community pools, and at facilities where he was employed as a Physical Education teacher. He was a huge proponent of water safety (and way ahead of his time) by implementing a "Water Babies" class in July, 1965 at PHS. This program taught mothers and their young children ages 18 months-6 years how to be acclimated to the water. Bill's premise was simple and straightforward. "The program is one of monkey see, monkey do. We're not so interested in teaching these young children to swim as we are in acclimating them to the water."

He was affiliated for many years with the American Red Cross aquatic programs, teaching countless teenaged soon-to-be lifeguards Lifesaving and Water Safety Instruction.

While a coach at Princeton, he established the Swim-a-thon, which became an annual fund raising effort whose proceeds benefited the Princeton College Scholarship fund.

He also put on an annual Water Ballet using the talents of members of both boys and girls swim teams and featured swimming to music (using the Olympic sport for influence). This event's proceeds also benefited the Princeton College Scholarship Fund.

Bill was a demanding coach and classroom instructor. He had the keen ability (some would say gift) to realize the potential in every young person's life that he encountered. He was demanding in the most gentle of ways, and in doing so instilled in each child a sense of personal responsibility, dependability, reliability, and a desire to set and realize personal goals. It was his caring, knowledge, patience, diligence, and perseverance that influenced and changed countless young lives in a positive way.