

CORNERSTONE AWARD HONOREE

Jerry Phillips received a B.A. in Education from Capital University in 1964 and an MEd from Xavier University in 1969. He started his teaching career along with coaching at the Marysville School District in 1964, moved to Ashland School District from 1968-70 to teach, coach and take on the additional role of guidance counselor, and settled in the Gahanna-Jefferson District in 1970 where he served as a guidance counselor for 25 years. Phillips was the guidance coordinator at Gahanna Lincoln High School from 1970-95.

Former G-J teacher and coach Phil Koppel had this to say about Phillips, "I honestly believe that Jerry is the finest role model that I've encountered in all my years in education. He was encouraging, honest, modest, professional, idealistic, moral, and a confidante and faithful friend to his fellow professionals."

Phillips has received many honors throughout his education career including the Gahanna Jaycees' Outstanding Young Educators Award and the State of Ohio's Jack Scott Award for Outstanding Counselor. Phillips was known for his organizational and communication skills working as a member of many university advisory councils: The Ohio State University, Capital University, Otterbein College, Bowling Green State University, University of Toledo, Miami University and Columbus State College. Active in community issues, Phillips founded the Gahanna "Tough Love" parent support group and co-founded the Gahanna Counseling Center (for drug abuse). He initiated Gahanna Lincoln's involvement in the Columbus-Suburban College Fair and was honored for his contributions to the SYNTAX Home for Boys. With modesty, Phillips states, "I've always believed that it was my pleasure and honor to serve the Gahanna-Jefferson School District as a counselor. My involvement in the Tough Love parent support group gives me much satisfaction and vivid memories."