

## Mount Pearl Sports Hall of Fame Inductee Cluney (Mac) Rideout

Athlete/Builder 1998



Cluney (Mac) Rideout first played minor sports in St. John's at the age of seven. Throughout his school years he frequented the baseball, hockey, soccer, basketball and volleyball scenes and was respected by players and coaches alike for his team spirit and sportsmanship. At the age of 14. Mac became the youngest athlete that has ever been selected to play junior baseball with the Guards Athletic Association. The following year after being selected, he started pitching at both junior and senior levels, jumpstarting what would be a wondrous baseball career. From 1963 to 1977 Mac played with the Guards baseball teams responsible for five senior and seven junior championships at the local level. Moreover, in 1966 he was a member of the Provincial Baseball All-Star team that won the Canadian Junior Championship. Mac, being the tremendously talented pitcher he is, was the winning pitcher in the championship game. This win was the first ever National championship, for any sport, that was won by a team from Newfoundland.

Mac was also an active member of the hockey community, by playing both junior and senior hockey. In 1968, he assisted the Guard's junior team in winning the local championship with an undefeated season. Mac's senior team captured the Boyle trophy that same year; Mac was then awarded the "St. John's Male Athlete of the Year" award. In 1978 Mac retired as a player but remained completely involved in the sporting community as a coach and organizer for the Guards team. Mac has been inducted into the St. John's Baseball Hall of Fame and the Provincial Hall of Fame in recognition of his outstanding talent and contributions.

In 1979, the year Mac moved to Mount Pearl, he wholeheartedly endorsed the fact that the city needed to accommodate the growing interest in sports it was undergoing. In 1981 he was an instrumental member of the committee that was responsible for establishing a healthy and stable minor baseball program in Mount Pearl. Moreover, in addition to organizing the baseball league he also coaches teams in it. In 1985 he coached a Pee Wee team that competed at an invitational tournament in Amherst, Nova Scotia winning the consolation championship. The following year, Mac coached a Pee Wee team to the Atlantic Championship hosted by Prince Edward Island. Mac has also coached house league teams in the Mount Pearl Minor Hockey League. Clearly, Mac has been a huge inspiration for athleticism and volunteerism in the province for more than 30 years.

The Mount Pearl Sports Alliance recognizes Mac Rideout's outstanding athleticism and contributions with his induction to the Mount Pearl Sports Hall of Fame.