

March 13, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE.....

PAUL WALKER AWARD TO STEVE GRAY OF NORWALK HIGH SCHOOL

Below is the news release for the OHSBCA Paul Walker Award to Steve Gray of Norwalk High School. Steve will be presented this honor on Saturday, March 19th during the second State Championship Game at Value City Arena at the Jerome Schottenstein Center on the campus of The Ohio State University.

"Thanks" for your continuous support of Ohio Basketball!

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PAUL WALKER AWARD TO STEVE GRAY

The Ohio High School Basketball Coaches Association (OHSBCA) is proud to announce that Steve Gray of Norwalk High School is the recipient of the 2016 Paul Walker Award. The Paul Walker Award is presented annually by the OHSBCA to an active coaching member of the association who has made significant contributions to high school basketball. The award is named in honor of the late Paul Walker, the longtime coach of Middletown High School. At the time of his retirement, he had the most wins as boys' basketball coach in Ohio High School Basketball history.

Steve is a 1979 graduate of Baldwin-Wallace College. He began his coaching career at his alma mater Buckeye Central, in Crawford County. After two years at Buckeye Central, Steve moved down SR 602 to accept the position as JV Coach at Colonel Crawford. He spent four years at Colonel Crawford before being named the Varsity Boys Basketball Coach at Ridgedale High School, in Marion County. Steve also spent eight years as Varsity Boys Basketball Coach at Lexington, and an additional year at Colonel Crawford, before landing at Norwalk, where he has been for the last 15 years. He is a retired social studies teacher who taught 31 years.

Steve's record is 379-233. His teams have won seven League Championships, 13 Sectional Championships, appeared in five District Championships, and advanced to the Regionals three times. In 2014 Steve led the Norwalk Truckers to a Division II State Championship. During his reign at Norwalk his teams won 57 straight regular season games, which is the 8th longest winning streak in the history of Ohio Boys Basketball. In 2011, Norwalk won their 1st Northern Ohio League Championship in 49 years. Norwalk went on to win 4 straight NOL titles. Steve has been District Coach of the year six times and has been Northwest and Ohio Division II Coach of the year. He has had the honor of coaching in three All-Star Games, the District 11 All-Star Game, Ohio North-South All-Star Game, and Ohio-Kentucky All-Star Game. Additionally, Steve has had the privilege of coaching 10 All Ohio Basketball Players. Steve served as a District 6 Secretary, Treasurer and President.

In addition to his basketball coaching, Steve has also coached Volleyball, Track, Baseball, Football and Golf. In 2015 he became a member of the Buckeye Central Hall of Fame.

Steve resides in Norwalk with his wife of 32 years, Sue. They have three daughters. Elise is a graduate of The University of Toledo where she earned a BS in Finance, Master of Science in Nursing, and a post graduate certificate as a Family Nurse Practitioner. Elise also earned a Master's Degree in School Treasurer and Business Manager from Ashland Univ. Kelsey is a student at Columbus State, where she is working on her real estate license, and Kailyn, a student at The University of Toledo where she earned a BS in Public Health in December and began work on a Master Degree in Public Health, in January.