

Donna Conkling

From: Timothy Leone <tleone@fandm.edu>
Sent: Friday, January 15, 2021 10:07 AM
To: Mayor; Clerk's Department
Subject: The Richard "Rippy" Philipps Field at Crossways

CAUTION: External sender.

Good Morning,

I am writing this letter on behalf of Rippy Phillips who I have known for most of my life. I started playing football in 3rd grade and Rippy was always an integral part of the program. It seemed like every game or practice, Rippy was there. The young players would always look up to the 7th and 8th graders that Rippy coached directly. I know that I always looked up to them and couldn't wait for my turn to really play under Rippy.

Rippy was instrumental in the success of my football career. He was a great coach and an even better mentor. He truly got me to love the game and had patience with me on and off the field. I loved playing under Rippy and would love getting ready for those Saturday morning games where I knew you would hear his voice from any part of the field.

Even once I started playing in high school, Rippy always seemed to be there. I never knew how he was always there. I knew he had so much going on with the youth football program, but he always found a way to be on the sidelines of most of my high school games. It doesn't stop there, however, Rippy knew I was interested in playing on the collegiate level and he suggested I tour Franklin and Marshall College down in Lancaster, PA (His alma mater). He didn't push me to go to the school and he let me make my own decision, but was there as a resource for me and I eventually decided to follow in his footsteps and play collegiate football at F&M. Of course, Rippy found a way to make most of my college games at F&M as well. Growing up, I had no idea Rippy was such a big part of that program as well but everybody down in Lancaster seemed to know Rippy. I was even more amazed that he found a way to be at all of the Scarsdale games and still make time to get down to PA to come to these games as well.

I was fortunate enough to have Rippy on the sideline of my games from 3rd grade until my senior year of college. I can still hear his loud calls of "sugar" and "nuts" when something didn't go our way. He treated all of his players like his children and cared for every player he coached. I believe there would be no better person to name this field after. I can't picture that field without Rippy and naming the field after him would help his legacy live on long after he stops coaching. Young players and young coaches would continue to hear stories of Rippy and how he was able to grow the youth program and make everyone better who he was around.

Thanks for your time,

Timothy Leone
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