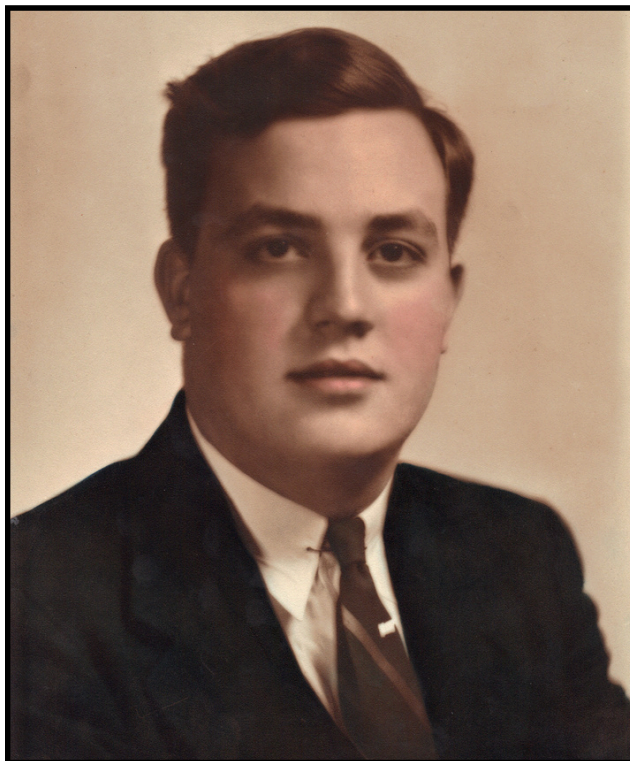


2024

FORSYTH-MONROE COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME

MARION DORNER



Marion Dorner was a Mary Persons football standout who started the first youth recreation football league in Monroe County in 1963. The youth football league was comprised of two local teams, the Black Knights and the Golden Rams, who competed against other teams across Georgia including an appearance in the 1963 Peanut Bowl in Columbus. Dorner's youth football league eventually became a "feeder" program for some of Coach Dan Pitts' best high school teams at Mary Persons. Dorner was also the founder of the Mary Persons Touchdown Club, and the Marion Dorner 12th Man Award, a prestigious award given to outstanding contributors to MP football, was later named in his honor. Dorner also hosted a weekly football pregame radio show on the Jackson radio station, WJGA, called the "Dorner Sports Arena." While an athlete at MP, Dorner was the quarterback on the 1938 Bulldogs' squad, coached by D.H. "Buck" Kunde, before moving to the offensive line later in his playing career. Dorner, an insurance salesman for Metropolitan Life, would go on to serve as a longtime Forsyth city alderman during the 1960s and 1970s. Dorner was married to wife Merrilee and had two daughters, Debra and Jan, and one son, Glenn.

