

**2018
Hall of Fame Inductee**



**Lynn Russell
Coach, Cheerleading
Central Bucks West -- 1983-2015**

Lynn Russell, known by all she coached, as “Rusty” oversaw the Cheerleading Squad from 1983 until 2015. Her career began when the former coach retired, leaving the position vacant. When it was apparent that a replacement could not be found, the school considered abandoning the Cheer Program.

Rusty's daughter, Kathy, pleaded with her mother to fill the vacant position. Kathy was a cheerleader and wanted to continue to cheer for her senior year. She explained to her mother that an adult was required to supervise and Lynn would only need to "sit there." Thirty-two years later she was still there yet she went way beyond "just" sitting there. Beginning in 1999 with a 3rd Place at the Suburban One Invitational, Small Varsity was the first of many other tributes.

2005-2006

- 1st place Maximum Cheer Challenge.
- 1st Place -Mid-Atlantic Cheer Invitational.
- 2nd Place - Hawk Classic.
- Grand Champions - Suburban One League Medium Varsity.
- 1st Runner-up - ECA Nationals in Williamsburg, VA.

2009 thru 2013

- NCA Performance Top Team.
- 2nd Place Suburban One League Championships Varsity Large.
- The Varsity Cheerleading Squad consistently won in their Division.
- CB West Classic won "The Rusty" Award.
- Superior, Universal Cheerleaders Association.

2011

- Capitol Recreation/School Cheer and Dance Nationals—Intermediate Varsity Division--Fairfax, Virginia.
- Varsity and Junior Varsity—First Place at District One Competition. Varsity honored as Grand Champions for highest score of the day.
- Varsity finished First at Suburban One, Delaware Valley College and University of Pennsylvania competitions.
- The Junior Varsity earned top honors at Delaware Valley; winning second at Suburban One and the University of Pennsylvania.

2014

- Varsity Squad won its Division for the sixth year in a row at *Reach the Beach Nationals* in Ocean City, Maryland.
- Varsity Squad earned Division two straight years at ECA Nations.
- Varsity Squad earned Division three years in a row at Battle at the Capitol.
- CB West Cheer Classic.

Rusty's coaching philosophy believed that if someone was willing to work hard, they could be on the squad. She included girls on the squad who were not yet skilled enough to tumble and worked with them until they mastered a back handspring in time for competition. She coached the best of the best. Several girls continued to cheer after entering college. One of them, Courtney Dougherty, was talented enough to be accepted as a cheerleader for the Baltimore Ravens Football Team and performed at **Super Bowl XXXVII** in 2001

For the past 50 years Coach Rusty continues to live in the Chalfont home where she raised her five children all of whom graduated from Central Bucks West and participated in sports programs: Patti - Rifle Team; Jill and Kathy-Cheerleading; Karen-Tennis; and Brian -Football. Rusty has 19 grandchildren and two Great Grandchildren. Family is the core of who she is and her cheer family has been equally important to her.

Lynn sends big thanks to Sean Kelly, former Athletic Director; Coach Dave Koenig, Coach Kelly Cramer; and Ashley Godfrey--the new Coach and successor who continues the squad's legacy. Lynn also gives special recognition to the hundreds of girls she coached throughout the years. Finally she sends a special memory to Marlon McPhatter, a great coach and friend for all the support he gave over the decades in preparing the squads for competition.