2014 EMCC SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

GEORGE BELVIN

George Belvin was no stranger to the Scooba campus while attending high school and playing football for Hall of Fame coach L.J. Davis at Enterprise High School. Belvin’s grandmother lived in Scooba and his father helped repair the football field lights for East Mississippi Junior College football coach Bob “Bull” Sullivan. A decade later, Belvin earned a chance to play for the Lions’ coaching legend by starring as a wide receiver for EMJC’s 1963 and 1964 football teams that combined for a 19-3-1 record. Belvin also ran track in college on the mile relay team and in the 880-yard run. Though influenced greatly by his previous coaching mentors, Belvin put his education on hold to serve his country in Vietnam as a member of the United States Marine Corps. Belvin was assigned to an infantry combat unit that persevered through major battles, including Khe Sanh and Hills 881 and 861. After being discharged from the USMC in 1968, he resumed his education and football career at Mississippi College. Upon graduating in 1970, Belvin began his coaching career at Florence Junior High School (1970-72) followed by a 15-year stay as head football coach at Clarkdale High School. While guiding the Bulldogs to a pair of conference championships and several bowl game appearances, Belvin re-entered the military ranks as a member of the Air National Guard. While serving from 1983 until mandatory retirement age in 2004, he worked on the flight line as a crew chief. In addition to being activated post-9/11 and deployed to Turkey on three occasions in support of the war in Afghanistan, Belvin was a member of fire departments at Meridian’s Air National Guard Base and later with the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians. In his retirement days as an avid traditional bow hunter, he travels across the country in pursuit of his hobby. Belvin is married to the former Pam Smith of Crandall, and they have three children – sons, Kenny (Angie) and John (Kristin), and daughter, Georgia. Also having three granddaughters, the Belvins make their home in Enterprise, where they built their log home from restored cabins dating back to the 1800s.