

Cook Field Dedication Remarks: October 15, 2016

From Richard Cook:

I would like to make a comment on the article in the Willis Hall Herald concerning all-time starting eleven at North Cross - other than telling the reporter (Joe Cranwell) the top three players—Emily, Ryan and Ethan—and having Grayson at #4, I had little to say so no more threats from the board, George and Russ! (I do know my favorite all time student Colleen).

Easy to thank the Tuckers, Staceys, Daughertys, Seelys, Proctors, Wonsons, and Thompsons—proper to do so!

Easy to thank and mention the great teachers, the DeHarts, Graysons, Maycocks, Gardners, Martins, Meaghers, and Belderes—and proper to do so!

Easy to thank all the great players—the Fraziers, Martins, Cunninghams, Bradleys, Revercombs, Prillamans, and Currans—and proper to do so!

Easy to thank family—Nancy, Ethan, and Stephanie, Ryan and Sang, Emily and John, Cate and Clay. Without them, difficult to imagine this!

Easy to mention the Browns—James has found a way to continue the success of North Cross soccer—with the support of his wonderful family, Emily, Julie, and Sophie.

We forget; society forgets those who labor, with little recognition or honors, to ensure our kids have good advice about classes and colleges, good food, clean bathrooms and buildings, and beautiful fields—we never should forget the Jernigans, Arringtons, Wades, Webbs, Brandons, Lees, Lopezes, Aavatsmarks and Bakers. I won't—they take great pride in their work and make possible our central task: the education of our kids!

I am an ordinary man who was given an extraordinary opportunity to do wonderful things—I think Stewart would approve of my efforts. I know Nancy does!

Thank you.

From Nancy Cook:

I want to remember some important people who could not be here today: Billy Ellis, a tough-minded mentor who befriended us in the early years and Nelle Gardner our friend and guide, Richard's parents Catherine and Howard Cook who would be very proud of him and my parents Sue and Dick Baldauf who were a safety net during the lean years. I would also like to thank my children's coaches who are not having a field dedicated to them today but who had an important impact on their lives: Hugh Meagher, Rick France, Dave Calvert, David Frazier, Coach Muscaro, T Bone, Jerry Maycock, Donna Satterwhite, Gaylen Moore and Ann Jennings.