

## **Carl "Cookie" Johnson**

### **Calumet High School Athletic Hall of Fame**

Lettered in football and basketball while attending Calumet High School (1939-1942).

Captained the 1942 CHS football team that finished the season undefeated and is still the last Calumet football team to accomplish that feat.

Was named an honorable mention running back on the 1942 All-U.P. football team.

Left school during his senior year to join the United States Navy and served for four years (1942-1945) during World War II. Returned to CHS after the war to finish his studies so he could attend college.

Entered Michigan Tech and lettered in football as a freshman running back (1947).

Transferred to Northern Michigan the following year and lettered in football for the Wildcats while earning his teaching degree (1948-1951).

Began his varsity head coaching career at Baraga High School when he took over the basketball program (1955).

During his coaching career with the Vikings, his teams won seven conference championships, eight district championships, two regional championships and twice finished as state runners-up (1960 & 1964).

Honored by being named Copper Country Coach of the Year on four occasions and Upper Peninsula Coach of the Year (1960). The Vikings also received the George Rudness Memorial Trophy which is presented to the Upper Peninsula Basketball Team of the Year (1964).

Retired after 23 years as Baraga's head basketball coach with a 309-191 (.618) overall record, including an impressive 43-21 (.672) mark in post-season play-off action (1955-1976 & 1982-1984).

Was one of only five U.P. coaches to reach the elite 300 win club at the time of his retirement.

Along with an outstanding basketball coaching career, he also coached football and track during his time at Baraga and was also a referee for various sporting events in the area.

Inducted into the Upper Peninsula Sports Hall of Fame in 1994.

An excellent high school and college athlete who left high school early to serve his country in time of war, and then returned to distinguish himself as one of the finest high school basketball coaches in Upper Peninsula history.