

DENNIS MARQUARDT
GRAND MARSHAL
76th Temple City Camellia Festival

Dennis Marquardt was born in Pasadena, California in 1943. He moved to Covina at the age of 8 where his father, LeRoy, started the Covina Little League. While growing up, Denny played youth baseball, American Legion baseball and other youth sports, making a name for himself as a stellar athlete even before enrolling at Covina High School. While attending high school he starred as a four-year letterman in both baseball and basketball. Excelling in these sports he was named to numerous All-CIF teams in both sports.

After graduating from Covina High School, Denny signed a baseball contract with the Los Angeles Dodgers, where he played outfield for five years. During the off season, he would return home to Covina and take courses at Cal Poly Pomona, keeping his promise to his mother that he would get his degree. After his years with the Dodgers, Denny finished his studies at Cal Poly Pomona and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education. He then received his teaching credential from Pepperdine University.

Denny started teaching at Temple City High School in 1968, where he taught Health and Safety and Drivers Education to every incoming freshman for 35 years. In 1970 Denny met Clare Collins, an English teacher at TCHS who would later become his wife for the next 45 years. Denny coached a year of basketball at the TCHS before being named the head baseball coach in 1971, a position he held for 27 years until 1997.

As the Varsity baseball coach, his teams were, year in and year out, among the best in Southern California. In 27 years, his teams made 20 CIF playoff appearances and won 10 Rio Hondo League Championships. Denny amassed 398 wins as the head coach and was recognized with induction into the San Gabriel Valley Coaches Hall of Fame. His jersey, Number 7, is

retired at Temple City High School, and just recently the school's baseball facility was named Dennis Marquardt Stadium honoring his 27 years of dedication to the baseball program and the young men he coached along the way.

Denny and his late wife, Clare, have four children, Katie, Mickey, Marty, and Andy and three grandchildren, Calvin, Camille, and Kennan. He has resided in Sierra Madre for the past 47 years and still maintains close relationships with many of his colleagues from his time at Temple City High School. In his words, "it was an awesome place to work with great people to work with."