

OADA HoF Bio: Vicki Nelms

Vicki was born in Jonesboro, Arkansas and moved to Pacific Missouri when she was 2 years old. Her dad, Gerald was a teacher and coach. He was also a Korean War Veteran. Her mom, who is currently 90 years old worked several jobs including as a bank teller (who's bank was involved in a heist), Six Flags Group Sales Manager and a realtor. Vicki is her mom's caretaker.

Vicki has 2 sisters, Denise and Geralyn and a brother, Gerald Jr., all younger. Gerald and his wife Linda have 4 children. Kyle, Liliana, Jake and Josh. Jake is a computer software programmer, and his wife Gaby works for Southwest Airlines. Liliana is a 7th grade science and volleyball coach in San Antonio, Texas. Jake is a Mechanical Engineer in Richland, Washington. Josh is a sophomore at Austin College in Sherman, Texas and on the water polo team.

Vicki graduated from Pacific High School in Pacific, Missouri. She was a three-sport athlete competing in basketball, softball and volleyball. She attended Arkansas State University for two and half years playing on the volleyball team. She also was on the tennis and bowling teams. She left at the semester break of her junior year to work full-time with Astroworld Amusement Park as a Food Service Supervisor while attending the University of Huston. She oversaw seven restaurants, three of which earned over a million dollars yearly. She then returned to Arkansas State University to finish her BSE Degree with a Physical Education major and Health minor.

Vicki began her teaching and coaching career in January of 1981 at Portageville HS in Portageville, Missouri, then moved to Chillicothe, Texas for three years, then to Snyder, Texas for three years, then to Cape Coral, Florida and back to Texas to coach at Texas Wesleyan University, then back to Industrial HS in Vanderbilt, Texas.

Vicki then began her full-time administration jobs starting in Los Alamos HS in Los Alamos, New Mexico from 2007-2014. Vicki became Athletic Director at Clackamas HS in 2014 and completed her tenure of 43 years as the AD at Adrienne C. Nelson HS.

Vicki coached basketball, cross country, softball, tennis, track and field and volleyball while teaching in high schools. She also coached women's college basketball. At the HS level she led her school to a Texas 4A State Championship in Volleyball, 3A Basketball

Final Four in Florida, All-Star Coach for Basketball in Florida along with Conference Coach of the Year in basketball, volleyball, cross-country and softball in Texas and Florida. While working at Los Alamos HS in New Mexico, Vicki was the New Mexico Athletic Directors Association State President for two years, Board of Directors for two years, taught LTI courses, State Coordinator for the CAA exam and New Mexico 5A AD of the year. Vicki presented at the national conference in 2009 on Limited Athletic Facilities, served on the NIAAA Strategic Planning Committee in 2009, served on the NIAAA DEI subcommittee from 2020-2022 which became a full committee in 2021, and the name became DEIB. Vicki was part of the 2020 NIAAA Cohort Leadership Class. She was the State LTC testing coordinator for both New Mexico and Oregon. Vicki served as an OADA league rep for two years and was nominated for OADA 6A Athletic Director of the year in 2017 and League Award of Merit in 2018. She was awarded the Bruce Whitehead DSA Award in 2022, the NFHS Citation Award in 2022, the Cindy Simons Leadership Award and the Bill Bowers Award of Excellence in 2023. Congratulations on an amazing career!

