

William (Bill) Culp

Educator & Community Activist

William (Bill) Culp was born in Dearborn, Michigan, on July 15, 1943 to Ned and Gudrun Culp. Bill went through his freshman year at West High in Phoenix. He graduated from Sutton's Bay High School in Michigan and came back to Arizona to continue his education.

He earned his Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Arizona State University in 1968 and his Masters of Arts and Administrative certification from The University of Arizona in 1976.

Bill served his entire educational career in Eloy. His first teaching job was at the new Eloy Junior High School where he taught social studies. At the Junior High, he coached football, basketball, and track. Always a leader, he was the president of the local teachers association.

Bill continued his teaching at Santa Cruz Valley Union High School, again in Social Studies. At Santa Cruz, he coached football, volleyball, girls and boys basketball, girls and boys track, softball, and baseball.

He served Santa Cruz as teacher, athletic director, and retired as its principal. It was during his tenure as principal that Santa Cruz was honored as the School of the Year by the Arizona Athletic Association.

Believing in community activism, Bill served on numerous educational and civic committees and organizations. He was on the Eloy City Council, the CAVIT Governing Board, and the Eloy Elementary Governing Board.

Asked why he taught in "little" Eloy for thirty-three years, he always gave the same answer, "Eloy has the best kids in the world."