

Sports

The Mesquite News/Sunday, January 20, 1991/Page 9B ■

Hubert Terry

*'A man never stands so tall as
when he stoops to help a boy.'*

Coach of 22 years left his mark on Mesquite youth sports

By OSCAR MARTINEZ
Special to the News

Hubert Ray Terry, 56, passed away from a life that he diligently dedicated to the youth of Mesquite. This season would have marked Hubert's 22nd year of coaching youth sports in city of Mesquite-sponsored programs.

On Dec. 27, 1990, Terry suffered a massive heart attack while working at Hall-Mark Electronics. His wife, Oleta Terry, said that he did not have a previously known heart condition.

Terry's professional expertise was in the field of electronics. He worked for Texas Instruments for 25 years in the supply division and served in the armed forces in 1957-58.

In 1989, the Mesquite Baseball Association dedicated its annual program to Terry. It was his 20th year of coaching his favorite sport.

The program reads, "Hubert Terry is truly an exceptional man. He has always had the 'kids come first' attitude. Mr. Terry is an ideal role model for today's young coaches. He is living proof that hard work and dedication benefit future generations."

Terry began in 1969 by coaching his oldest son, Kevin. By the end of his coaching career, athletic office records estimate that he had directly coached more than 800 Mesquite children.

Terry was elected MBA president in 1975 — a position that he

held several times throughout the years. He also served several times as vice president, and would have held that position this summer. He was past president of the MBA Pinto, Mustang and Bronco leagues.

"Hubert really enjoyed baseball," said his wife, who was very supportive of his interests.

She went on to say that even though Terry was considered one of the winningest coaches in MBA history, his players were always more important to him than anything else.

Terry represented the MBA on the Mesquite Athletic Committee, which assisted the efforts of the Parks and Recreation Department to improve the quality of youth sports programs. He was also a

lifetime member of the National Youth Sport Coaches Association.

His involvement in Mesquite Pee Wee Football began in 1977 with the Rockets/Eagles organization. The Eagles were primarily made up of youngsters in the Rugel Elementary School area. In 1983, the Rugel Parent/Teachers Association awarded Terry an honorary life membership.

Mrs. Terry said she believes the PTA award represented the school's awareness and appreciation of her husband's dedication to children. She vividly recalls the standing ovation Terry received when he was given the award. Mrs. Terry received a similar award in 1980.

Terry was scheduled to coach the fourth-grade Rebel boys team

in the city's Mesquite Elementary Basketball program that began Jan. 12. The Rebels are now being coached by Don Hayes. But Terry's Rebel cap, maroon jacket and whistle remain neatly arranged above his favorite chair in the Terry household's den.

According to Mrs. Terry, the den was her husband's favorite place away from ball games and league meetings. The walls are decorated with plaques, awards and numerous recognitions of his dedication and accomplishments.

The first plaque Terry ever received from the MBA states, "A man never stands so tall as when

■ See Terry, Page 10B

Terry

■ Continued from Page 9B

he stoops to help a boy."

According to MBA representatives, "Hubert Terry stands very tall."

The Parks and Recreation staff said it will miss a gentle man who

was always willing to assist in providing and improving athletics for the children of Mesquite. The community will miss a volunteer who was always available and willing to assist youth sports in whatever way he could.

Oscar Martinez is athletic coordinator of the Mesquite Parks and Recreation Department.