

Athlete – Jason Lude

Class of 1989

If you have attended a sporting event in the last thirty years, you have probably heard someone say, Lude on the tackle, Lude with the catch, and Lude with the big shot. Jim and Linda Lude are the parents of Jason Lude, one of about twenty Ludes to have graduated from Western Reserve. Jason immediately began working as a floor installer for Don Booth and his brother Ken Lude. During his free time, Jason has served as a church trustee to Redeemer Luthern, volunteered as the President of Western Reserve's Youth Baseball and Softball league, and coached his children's little league teams. Jason has been married to Lori Lude for 27 years and they have four children: Jason Alan Lude Jr., Justin Lude, Alyssa Lude, and Alexis Lude. He also has one grandson, Angel Ortiz.

Jason was a multi-year letterman in Basketball, Football, and Track. While running track Jason participated in many events. The 4x100 and 4x400 meter relay teams were always a guarantee, but Jason would fill in where needed. Jason could run sprints one meet, distance the next, and even long jump. The events would change, but the results would usually end with Jason finishing somewhere near the top.

While playing basketball Jason was a starter on the lone basketball team to make it to state. One of Jason's greatest moments came standing at the free throw line all tied up with a chance to advance: he would sink both free throws to make even the great Mr. King smile.

During his football career the Blue Devils did not have a great record, but they improved every single year. Just like Track, Jason was asked to do many things on the football field. He played quarterback, tight end, wide receiver, corner, safety, kick returner, and punter. If you look in the record books, you'll find his name near the top of categories like, yards in one game, yards in a career, receptions in one game, longest kick/punt return, and even one of the longest punts ever recorded at 64 yards. Jason's son Justin, his children's friends, and his nephews would go on to break some of those records. There was one record they could never break, as Mr. Malito use to say everyday, "you're all pretty good, but none of you are your Old Man."