JOHN WARD

Coach Ward, a long-time local high school basketball coach had a profound impact and influence on so many people in the Santa Barbara-Carpinteria communities. Ward began his coaching career in 1982 at Bishop Diego High School, guiding the Cardinals to several league championships. He also served as Athletic Director during his 23 years at BDHS. In 2005, he transferred his skills to Carpinteria High School as both the Boys' Basketball Head Coach and teaching math in the classroom. During the 2006 season, he coached against his son Johnny, who was a standout player at Bishop Diego HS. In 2009, he was named Athletic Director for the Cardinals. During his six seasons coaching the Warriors, he compiled an 85-71 win-loss record.

In 2010, at the age of 55, Coach John Ward was diagnosed with colon cancer, twelve days later, he passed away, surrounded by his family, including his son Johnny, who later took over the coaching reins from his father at Carpinteria High School.

In 2011, Coach Ward was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Southern California Interscholastic Basketball Coaches Association. Both his son Johnny and his daughter Nancy were there in Anaheim to accept the award on behalf of our loving Coach John Ward.