



Pat Moore

Pat Moore grew up in a gymnasium as an infant watching her father John Maurice Cowan play basketball for the Wabash College Little Giants, located in Crawfordsville, Indiana. She attended Western College in Ohio for 2 years but when funds fell short of supporting both she and her brother to complete their education, she offered to move to Chicago, Illinois where she became a flight attendant for United Airlines.

In 1952, she fell in love with her future husband George Moore, who was a Managing Director for Goodyear Tire. When George was offered a position in Tokyo, Japan, the family of 6 made the transition seamlessly, continuing their education and passion for the game of basketball. In 1968, George was transferred to Orange County, California and thus, the Moore Movement began making its basketball imprint on communities at the high school and college levels in the Golden State.

Pat Moore has supported the game of basketball for over 90 years. She is infamous for "critiquing" game officials.

At one of her daughter Beth's high school games, versus star player Annie Meyer's, (they later became teammates on that UCLA National Championship team) Pat was working the referee's over, to a point that they ejected her from the game. How did Pat counter this blatant and unacceptable move by these inept rent-a-ref's? She proceeded to sit behind Annie Meyer's team bench, continuing to correct the game officials on calls she found questionable or downright wrong.

At Westmont College games, on many occasions, she was the Commander in Chief, sitting with the Westmont student body section, helping lead the students in resounding cheers while also assessing "accountability and justice" to the game officials. Yes, she displayed a charm and Warrior presence in her 5'5 slim frame, turning Murchison Gymnasium into Duke University's Cameron Hall, the Crazy's and all. Yet, after the game was all forgotten, she could be witnessed walking up to a game official out in the lobby, shaking their hand and dissolving any misunderstanding that the referee might have considered. It was never personal with Pat. It was just that Hoosier competitive spirit and the Love of the Game.

Since that initial basketball season in 1976, when her son John attended Westmont College as a student and player, Mama Moore, as fans like to call her, has been a jewel to the community of Santa Barbara, both as a basketball fan and as a community leader. She has even passed on this zest for life and the hardwood floor to her granddaughter Laura Moore, (Beth's daughter) who is the Head Girls' Basketball Coach at Cate School in Carpinteria. To no surprise, Pat attended each and every Lady Rams game last season. Did she cut the high school game officials a break, with a lesser number of fans and intensity occupying the spectator seats? Not a chance. But after all these years of supporting coaches and teams, she has translated her influence on the game with a jovial pitch and finesse that is sweet to the ears of everyone in attendance.

In a world of uncertainty, you can always count on Pat Moore's award-winning smile and her love for engaging in conversation. She has never met a stranger. That's just the way they did it in Indiana and that has been her signature mantra throughout her life's journey, be it Chicago, Tokyo or Southern Cal.