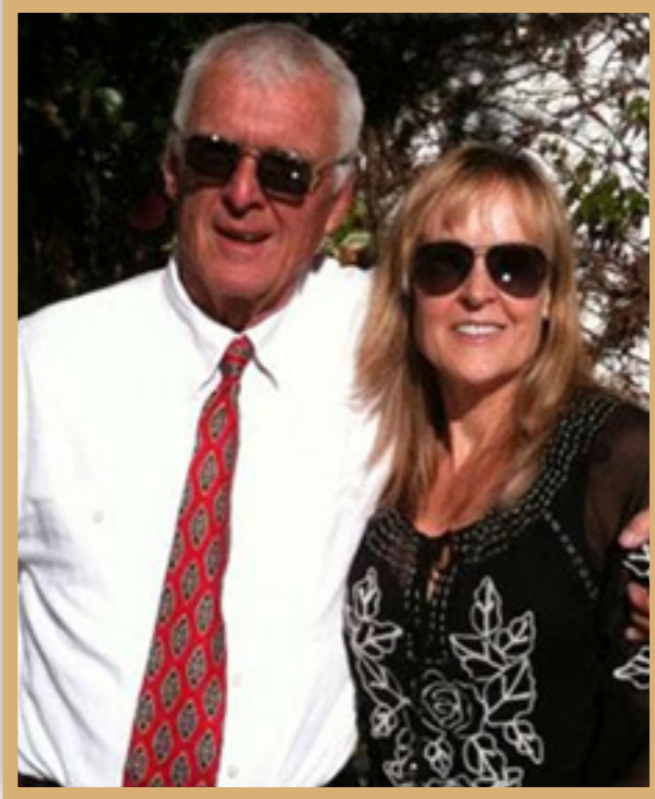




SANTA BARBARA COURT OF CHAMPIONS

GARY COLSON | 2014 INDUCTEE



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Gary Colson (Born April 30, 1934) is an American basketball coach. The Logansport, Indiana native guided several college men's basketball teams, including Valdosta State University, Pepperdine University, University of New Mexico and California State University, Fresno.

As a college coach he compiled a record of 563-385, over 34 seasons of coaching between 1959 and 1995. In 2002, in the National Basketball Association he worked with the Memphis Grizzlies along with his long-time close friend Jerry West, an NBA Hall of Famer and legendary star from the Los Angeles Lakers.

- 563 career wins (ranks in top 50 Coaches of NCAA)
- Master's degree from Vanderbilt
- Hall of Fame at five different institutions
- NBA 5 for five years as assistant with Jerry West and Memphis Grizzlies

- At UCSB, was the assistant Athletic Director to Dr. Gary Cunningham
- Notable Players: Dennis Johnson (Celtics, Pepperdine), Luc Longly (Bulls, Univ of New Mexico), Marcos Leite (Brazil. Olympian, Pepperdine)
- Athletic Director at Pepperdine University and Valdosta State University
- Went to NCAA Sweet Sixteen twice ...lost to UCLA in 2nd round both times in Pawley
- Went to NIT five times. At Fresno, beat BYU and USC in first two rounds of NIT.
- At University of New Mexico: Preseason NIT went to final four at Madison Square Garden
- Recently signed contract to build a program at Ashiya University (Japan). Will take three Americans over to study/play.
- In last three years have held over 40 Free Basketball Shooting clinics for young kids including Kobe and Jordan
- Atlanta Tip Off Club awarded him Coach of the Year; Atlanta Tip Off Club award for 500 wins.
- Wife of 25 years is Mary Kathrine (Head of Physical Therapy Dept. at UCSB) and two sons Rick and Wade Colson.