

Bob McDonald *“Leaving a Lasting Legacy”* Honor

In 2023 DAYBA established the “Bob McDonald Leaving a Lasting Legacy” Honor. “A legacy reflects a belief that life is to be lived for a higher cause than self-interest.” The history of the McDonalds’ and their love of basketball is still being written and is nowhere near being over. As a family and on a personal level, they all have a passion for basketball that is embedded into the fabric of their family.



Bob McDonald with his six children
Judy, Paul, Tom, Mike, Joel, and Sue

Bob McDonald left a lasting legacy with all of his athletes and the people he touched along the way. As a history teacher and basketball coach at Chisholm High School, Bob McDonald developed an appreciation for the history of the program. The history of the McDonalds and their love of basketball is still being written and is nowhere near being over. As a family and on a personal level, they all have a love for basketball that is embedded into the fabric of their family. They have made lasting relationships with countless people and impacted so many different lives. None of the McDonald children or grandchildren got into coaching because they felt pressured to follow in his footsteps. It was his passion for the game mixed with their own love for basketball that drew them back in after their playing days were over. “You go into coaching because you like what the game did for you,” Joel said, “and you like the relationships you were able to establish because of it and you want to keep that, build on that and help instill that in everybody you coach.”

In 2023 at our 15th annual Border Battle DAYBA recognized Joe Doucette of Colfax, Wisconsin for our first Leaving a Lasting Legacy honor.

In 2024 DAYBA recognizes Dave Galovich and Neil Tesdahl from Crosby-Ironton.



Dave Galovich and Neil Tesdahl are honored to receive the Leaving a Lasting Legacy award in honor of Bob McDonald. Not only do Dave and Neil coach basketball like Bob, but also have close ties to the legendary Coach McDonald. Dave student taught and coached under Bob in Chisholm. Neil is married to Bob’s daughter Sue. Dave (head coach) and Neil (assistant coach) have been coaching basketball together in Crosby-Ironton for thirty-plus years. Together they have taken 3 Ranger teams to the State tournament. You had better have a great relationship as coaches when you take countless bus rides to games, scouting trips to pretty much every gym in central and northern Minnesota, running the elementary program two days a week, and the day-to-day practices and games. The camaraderie we have is pretty amazing! Dave and Neil have not only taught the fundamentals of the game throughout the years but have also taught life’s lessons to the many athletes wearing the maroon and white. Basketball will always be a part of Dave and Neil’s lives. Sitting on the bench today, to sitting in the stands in the future. Again, we are both truly humbled to be receiving this honor. In closing: GO CI GO!

Update: C-I coach Dave Galovich won his 800th game against Pillager. Dave joins Bob McDonald, Bob Brink of Rocori, and Ken Novak of Hopkins with 800 wins.