



John W. Hudson, Jr.

October 26, 1940 – January 9, 2013

John Hudson, Jr., former SD School for the Deaf (SDSD) superintendent, passed away in Greeneville, Tennessee on January 9th. He was a resident of Danville, KY at the time of his death.

Hudson earned his bachelors and masters degree from the University of Tennessee where he was a three year letterman on the football team. He went on to play in the Senior Bowl and Blue-Grey Bowl prior to joining the BC Lions professional football team in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Hudson had a long career in education. At one time, he taught at the Louisiana School for the Deaf. In addition to SDSD, Hudson was also the past superintendent of the Kentucky, Central North Carolina Schools for the Deaf.

Hudson started his SDSD position in August 1973 and after five years he resigned due to personal reasons. Along with many other accomplishments, he made great efforts in the area of public relations during his five years at the helm, addressing ways to better inform people of South Dakota about SDSD's students, its programs and its future needs. He, along with the help and support of many people, eventually succeeded in getting a new educational facility (Berry/Wright Educational Facility) constructed on campus.

The school campus buildings were officially named during the Hudson administration. Hudson selected a committee to brainstorm and come up with names along with rationale for each campus building.

Hudson was very much involved in different civic activities in Kentucky.

Funeral services for Hudson was held on Saturday, January 12 at the Presbyterian Church in Flat Gap, TN. He was laid to rest at the Rock Valley Baptist Church Cemetery.

(Editor's note: The members of SDAD and the whole Deaf Community across South Dakota express sincere and heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased for the loss of their loved ones.)