



**Steve Golemon
Llano High School
(Posthumously)**

James Stephen “Steve” Golemon was born October 2, 1944. Golemon was, as is his wife, Myra Beth Thurman Golemon, graduates of Tivy High School in Kerrville, and he would earn both a Bachelor’s of Science and a Master’s in Administrative Education from Southwest Texas State University (Now Texas State University).

Golemon and his wife, Myra, who had been a Pre-Kindergarten paraprofessional when she took an early disability retirement from Hill Country Elementary (Bandera I.S.D.), have two adult children, a son, Thurman Lamar Golemon, who is 48, and a daughter, Alisa Kaye Owens, who is 46. The Golemon’s had a third child Mendi Tré Golemon who is deceased.

Mendi, the Golemon’s youngest child, was 3 years old when she passed. Mendi died as a result of traumatic injuries she suffered in a car wreck. Though, the Golemon’s and all three of their children were injured in the wreck, only Mendi’s injuries proved to be fatal. The Golemon’s car wreck would

have a dynamic impact on the family and would change the trajectory of Golemon's coaching career, as Mendi's passing, would cause Golemon to decide to make mentoring and coaching female athletes a defining aspect of his career.

The Golemon's lone grandchild, Alisa's daughter, McKenzie Owens, is 23 and is a 2017 graduate of Bandera High School. McKenzie is currently attending the University of Texas San Antonio where she is majoring in kinesiology. Golemon and his granddaughter, McKenzie, were extremely close, and she was his pride and joy.

Golemon began teaching and coaching in 1969 at La Pryor High School and would also teach and coach in Lockhart, Georgetown, Woodsboro (twice), George West, Copperas Cove, Giddings, and Bandera, before returning to Llano I.S.D., in 2018, for a second stint, where he had been for 13 years, prior to the 13 years he spent with Bandera I.S.D. Over the past 52 1/2 years, Golemon, aside from being a head track and field coach for 36 years and a head cross country coach for 33 years, coached football for 34 years (most of those years either an offensive coordinator or defensive coordinator), had 3 times been a head basketball coach, and had coached powerlifting. As a track and field coach, Golemon coached multiple District and Regional Championship teams, as well as, in 1992, a Boys' 2A State Championship team.

Golemon's first contact with coaching cross country was as a volunteer assistant at George West High School in 1978 and 1979. Golemon served as the head varsity cross country coach, for Giddings, Woodsboro, Llano, and Bandera I.S.D.'s. The teams under Golemon's tutelage would amass 25 District Titles (with only 3 times, prior to his departure from Bandera, did a team not at least place as the District's Runner-up), 7 Regional Titles, and 5 Regional Runner-ups. Girls' Cross Country teams coached by Golemon competed, as a team, at the State Meet 13 times, finishing in the top half of the field 11 times, placing once Third and once as the State Runner-up, as well as, winning 5 State Championships (4 of which were earned consecutively by the Bandera Girls' Varsity Cross Country team (2014-2017)).

Numerous honors were bestowed on Golemon throughout his coaching career. Multiple times,

he was selected as "Cross Country Coach of the Year", in the U.I.L. Classification in which he was coaching, by either the Cross Country Coaches Association of Texas (2015 and 2016), the Texas Girls Coaches Association (2013), and the San Antonio Express (2014 and 2015). Golemon was also selected by the National Federation of High Schools as the "2015-2016 Texas Cross Country Coach of the Year." In 1992, he was selected by the Corpus Christi Caller Times as the "Coastal Bend Track and Field Coach of the Year."

Golemon attributed all team and individual successes, over the years, to, "... having had the opportunity to coach extremely committed, hardworking, self-disciplined, and well-rounded student-athletes, who have had the will to make the sacrifices necessary to excel beyond even their own expectations". The principle that Golemon would instill in all his teams and that would become the foundation upon which each of his Title/Championship teams built their success was, "The right people, doing the right things at the right time for the right reasons, will always produce the right results," or more simply put, that is "to put it bluntly", "WILL IT TO HAPPEN, AND IT WILL HAPPEN!!!!"

Golemon returned to Llano I.S.D. in 2018 to coach both girls' and boys' cross country; it would be Golemon's final coaching assignment, which would come to an end, in 2021, with the Llano Girls' team winning the District Title and the Llano Boys' team capturing Third Place at District. Steve Golemon understood that life is a race; he stayed faithful to the course and finished his race October 19, 2021, at the age of 77.