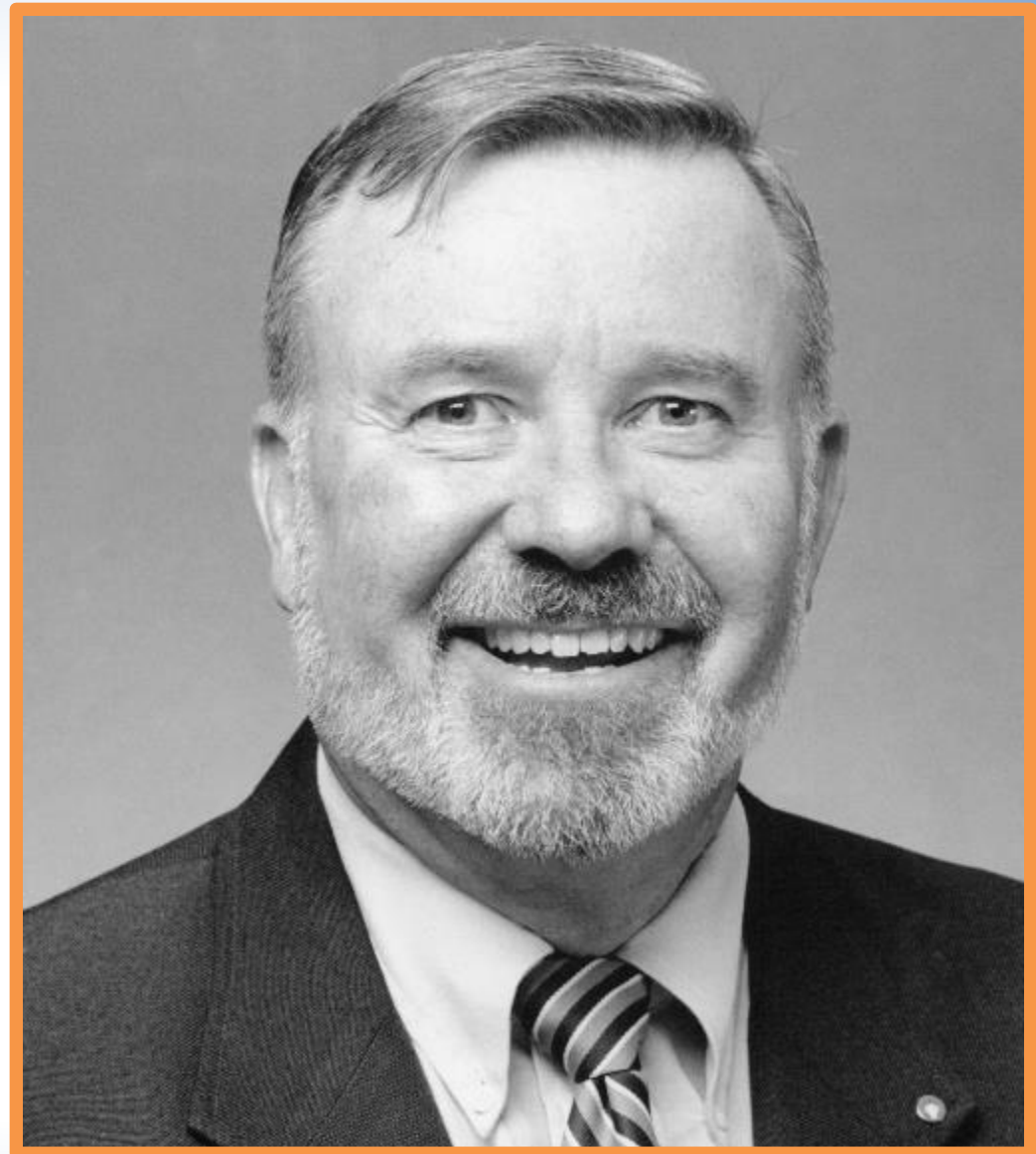




CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
FULLERTON

Dr. Bill Fulton
Health Education
Baseball Coach





Bill loved baseball. He was often referred to as "**Baseball Bill.**" From the age of ten, baseball was his passion. He played for Glendale High School and then Glendale Junior College.



Bill received his B.A. and M.A. from **California State University, Los Angeles**.

He went on to complete his doctorate in Health and Safety Education (H.S.D.) at **Indiana University** in 1964.

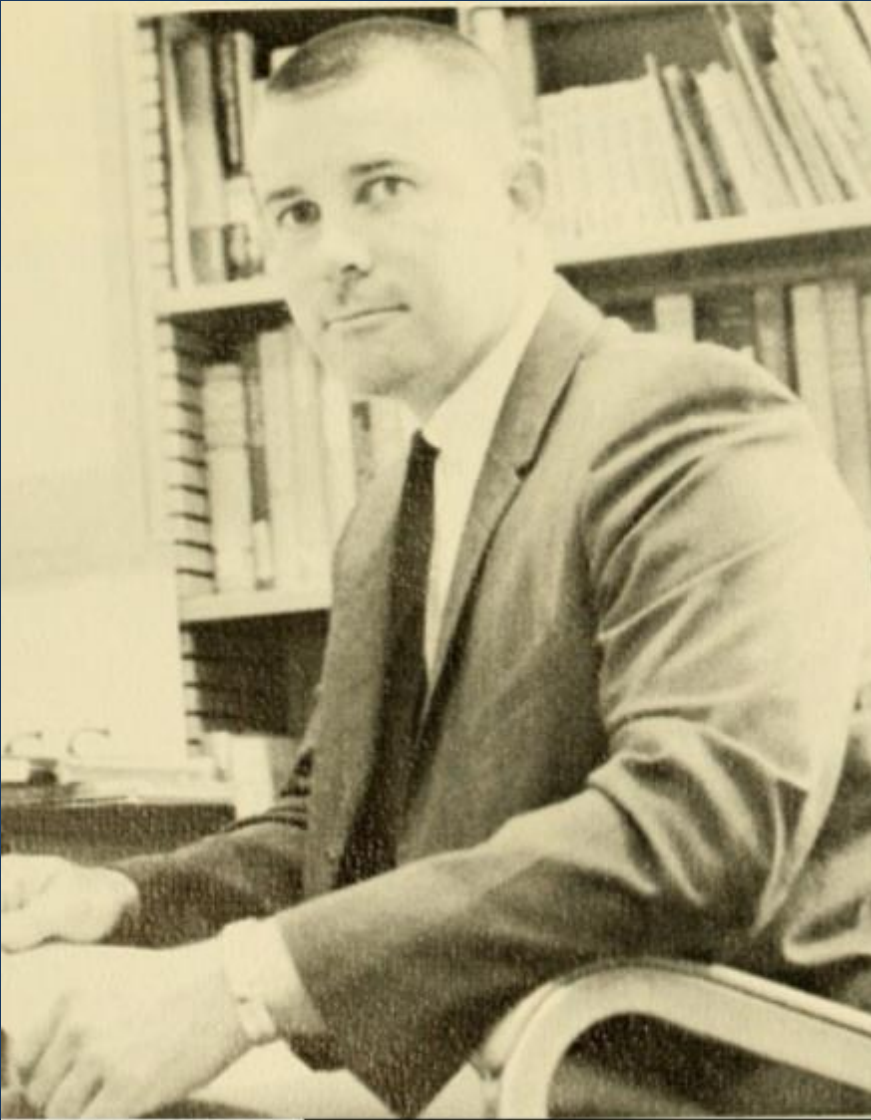


While serving in the army in **Korea** he played for the Special Services team there. After his military duties, he played **varsity baseball** at Cal State L.A.

Even though burdened with the heavy workload that a doctoral program demands, Bill was assistant varsity baseball coach at **Indiana University** while completing his doctorate.

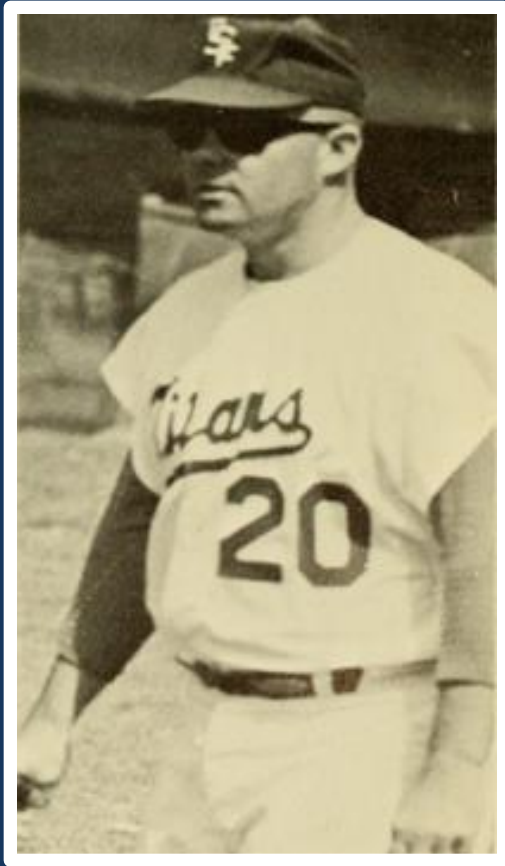


Bill spent the spring of 1965 with the **Pittsburgh Pirates** as a player /manager because he thought it would help him better prepare college players for Major League baseball.



In **March of 1965**, Bill came to Cal State Fullerton to be interviewed for a health position in the Department of HEPER.

After the interview, Bill said, "I hope I will be **seriously considered** for this position because I feel at home here."

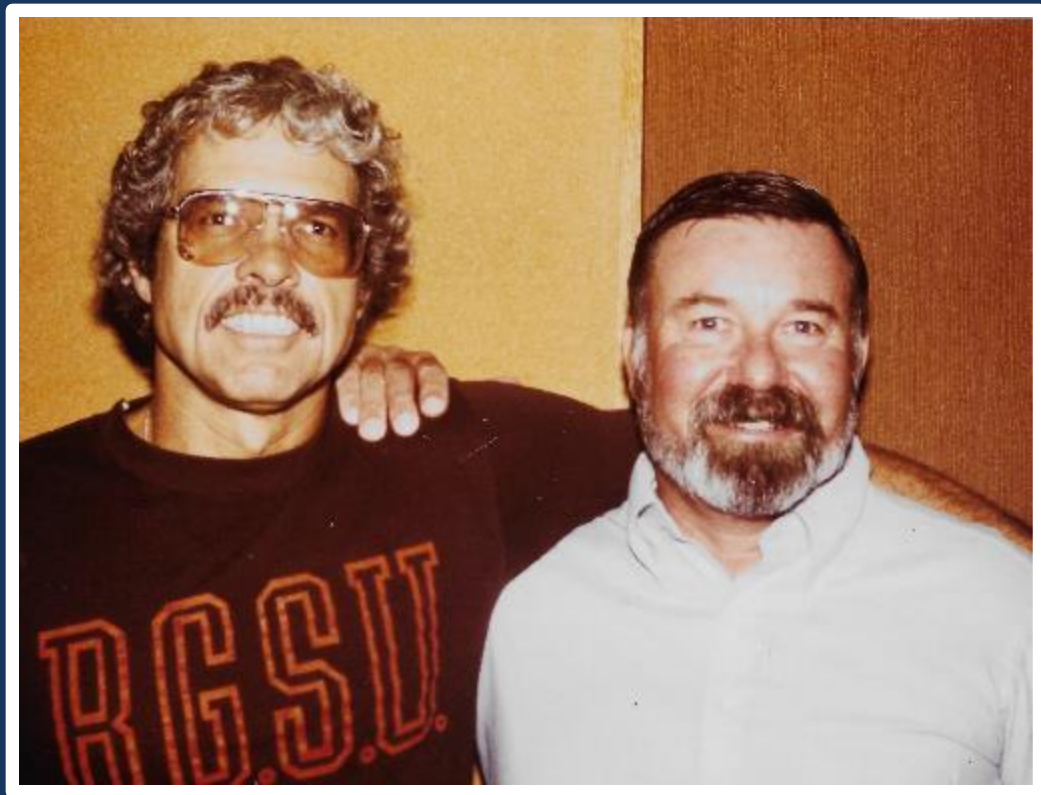


In the fall of 1965, Bill began his tenure at **Cal State College, Fullerton** (as it was known then) as an **instructor** in Health Education and as the first official Titan **baseball coach**.



Accompanying Bill to Orange County was his ever-loving wife **Jeannie**, an elementary school teacher.

She remembered when Bill started as baseball coach, “*He had to do everything because there was no money. He used his own truck to prepare the baseball field and all the base lines.*”



Colleague Ron Witchey and Bill

After the reorganization of the Department of HEPER, Bill decided to **devote his full attention to teaching** classes of First Aid, Drugs and Society, Health Education for Teachers, activity classes, and serving on department committees.

He wrote a book, *A Chronology of Substance Abuse*, that was published by The University Press of America in 1978.



Baseball, however, was still "in his blood," so he found time to coach at Pacific Christian College, Cal Poly Pomona, and to assist new Cal State Fullerton coach, **Augie Garrido**.

Baseball also took him and Jeannie to **Sweden** for several summers, where he was eventually named Head Coach of the **Swedish National Team** that competed in the European Cup.



Bill was also known for his incisive **sense of humor** and wit. He was always called upon to organize programs for retiring faculty, student recognition dinners, and other departmental functions. He often referred to himself as the “morale officer” of the department.



The Scrubbini class crest.

Some considered Bill's biggest contribution to CSUF to be his **Slow Pitch Softball** class affectionately known as "**Scrubbini**" in reference to a scrub who sits on the bench.

At its peak there were **6 sections** of Scrubbini. It was by far the **most popular** of all activity classes. All the students referred to Bill as "**The Commish**" and his wife Jeannie as "Mrs. Commish".



Each section of class consisted of two full teams all of whom wore Scrubbini team t-shirts. “The Commish” kept batting stats throughout the year, he had an All Star Game at midterm time, and the semester always ended with the “World Serious.” Bill would take a sound system and announce the players and game and introduce all of the “celebrities” (faculty, staff, etc.) in attendance.



Students would remember their Scrubbini class for years after leaving Cal State Fullerton. Many **shared comments** about the class and about “The Commish.”

*“Hey Commish, Scrubbini was responsible for some of my **best college memories**; not only just getting out to play, but some of the **best friendships** I made at Cal State were while I was playing Scrubbini.”*



*“The only class I actually looked forward to was **Scrubbin** ... it was the teacher that made the class. Dr. Fulton put so much thought into that league and made that class more fun than it probably should have been because of the way he ran it. I still got a couple of my favorite **chicken jerseys**.”*

Aaron Christopher
Facebook June 8, 2011



“Nine semesters. One All-Star appearance. One League title. One Hits title. Two managerial stints. Eight career home runs.

*And TONS of **pleasant memories** from a class act in every sense of the word. Scrubbini was a great, great idea: **expertly conceived** and **expertly executed** by a **wonderful man** who did plenty of good for plenty of students.”*

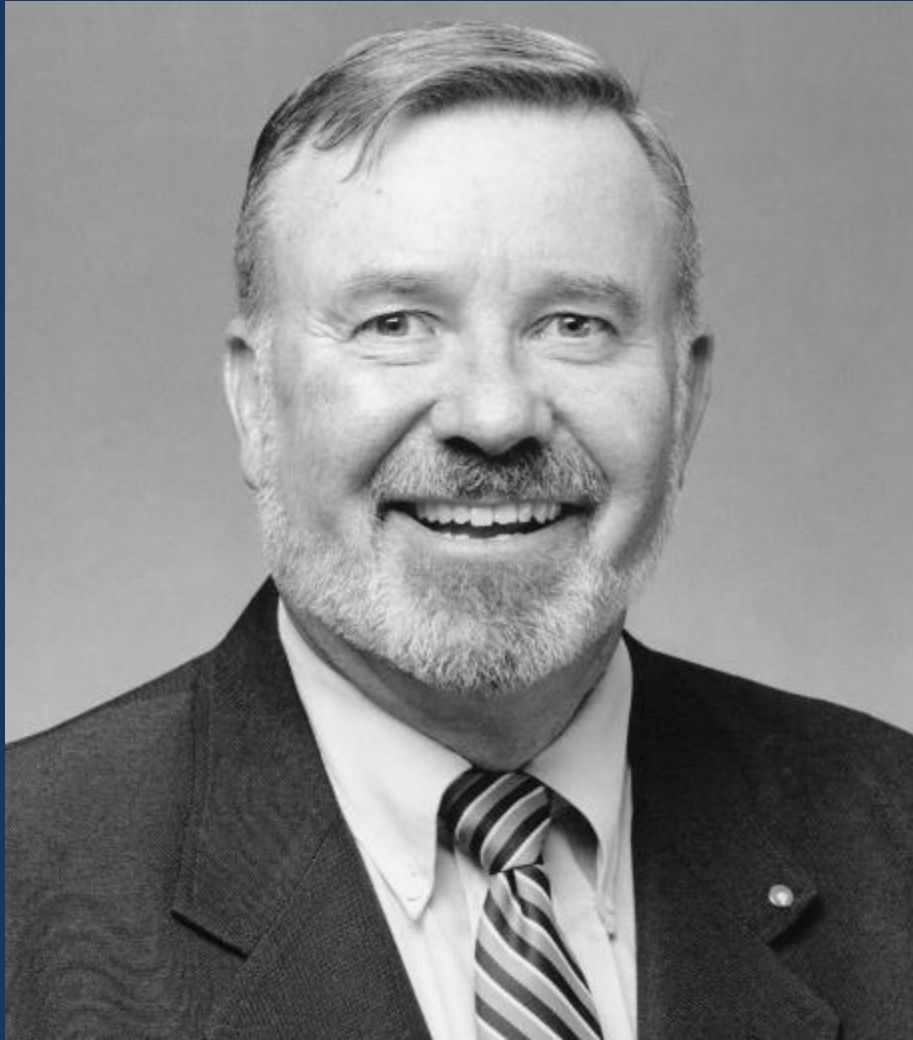
Brian Robin Facebook May 9, 2010



1985 Scrubbini World Serious game ball, found in Hank Tran's garage 27 years later.

*“You were not a real student at Fullerton unless you played Scrubbini. Some of us actually minored in it we took the class so many times. **The reason everyone came back each semester was the Commish.** If he wanted to be the school President he would have won by a landslide because he was loved by everyone. Commish, you are truly missed and there are **very few like you!**”*

Bob Taylor Facebook June 9, 2011

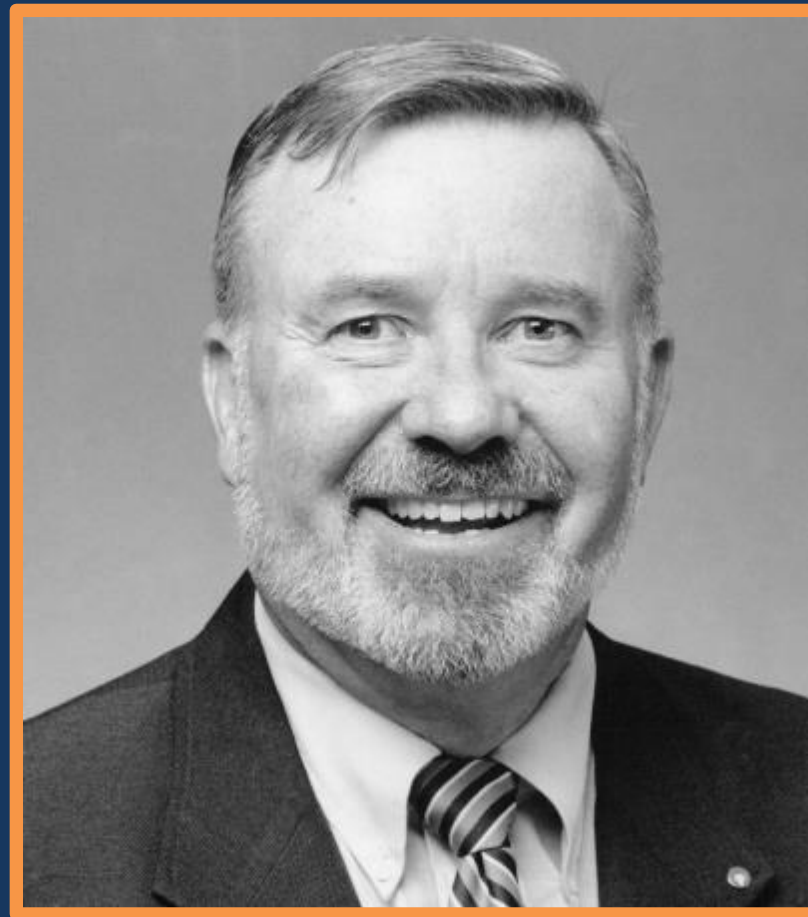


Bill was diagnosed in 1991 with **multiple sclerosis**. With great difficulty and courage, Bill managed to "hang in there" and teach for another two years. After retiring, he spent the next year **helping others** - encouraging the sick, providing transportation, and phoning people newly diagnosed with M.S. to give a listening ear and to encourage them and their families.



In Memoriam

Died August 12, 1994
At age 58



Martin William (Bill) Fulton, H.S.D.

Professor of Health, Physical Education
and Recreation, Emeritus
CSUF 1965 - 1992

