

Dr. Adolph (Dolph) Grundman

Bowen High School Notable Alumni

Biography

Dr. Adolph Grundman was born on March 25, 1941, at St. Margaret's Hospital in Hammond, IN. His family lived in Hegewisch and he attended Henry Clay Elementary School.

Dolph Grundman graduated from Bowen High School in 1958. In his senior year the Chicago Tribune placed him on its 1958 League All-Star Basketball and Baseball Squads. In his junior and senior years Grundman led the basketball team in scoring. In the latter year he finished sixth in the Chicago Public League scoring race. Harry Pritikin was his coach in both sports. Academically Grundman graduated in the top ten per cent of the June class and was elected its Vice-President.

Between 1958 and 1962 Dolph attended Albion College in Albion, MI. He earned eight letters, four in baseball and four in basketball. As a senior he was co-captain of the basketball and baseball teams. After graduating from Albion in 1962 Grundman earned a Master's degree in history from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, MI and a Ph.D. in history from Wayne State University in Detroit.

Beginning in 1971 Dolph spent the next forty years of his professional life teaching history at the collegiate level. From 1977 until 2011 he was a professor of history at Metropolitan State University of Denver. During this time Dolph served as the Director of the Honors Program from 1996 to 2006 and created a Legal Studies Minor which he also directed. Although his academic specialty was United States Constitutional History, Dolph kept his hand in sports in several ways. In 1985 he was the chairman of the university's athletic commission which determined that the university would compete at the NCAA's Division Two level. For five years he was the university's faculty representative to the NCAA and a member of its Athletic Council until he retired. In 1979 Dolph created a course examining Sports in America which he taught for twenty years.

In 2004 he published *The Golden Age of Amateur Basketball: The AAU Tournament, 1921-1968*. In 2009 he published a biography of Jim Pollard, who enjoyed a Hall of Fame basketball career with the Minneapolis Lakers in the 1940s and 1950s. In 2011 Dolph became an Emeritus Professor of History. He lives in Denver, Colorado, where he continues to do research and writing in American basketball history.