

## Poteet Biographical Sketch

Jim Poteet was born in Odessa, Texas on January 9, 1941. He graduated from Midland High School in 1959 after a stellar career in basketball. The success on the court led to Pasadena College (now Point Loma Nazarene University) on a basketball scholarship and a degree in physical education in 1963.

Poteet began his coaching career at Northwest Nazarene College after completing a master's degree in athletic administration at California State University (Los Angeles). His success as an assistant coach at NNC and Pasadena College led to his first head-coaching job at Biola College in 1968. At Biola, Jim was introduced to the NCCAA in its first year through founder, Norm Wilhelmi.

Following 3 successful years at Biola College, Poteet was hired as to build the basketball program at Bethany Nazarene College (now Southern Nazarene University). By the third season, 1973-74, BNC was experiencing phenomenal success with a 31-6 record and winning the NCCAA National Championship with a 30-point victory over California Baptist University. In addition, he was NCCAA National Basketball Coach of the Year in both 1974 and 1975. Jim was also the NCCAA regional chair from 1971 to 1979 and shared the mission and vision of the NCCAA with Christian universities throughout the nation.

Poteet coached the Redskins of BNC to the first NAIA District 9 Championship in 1976, and then led BNC to a second NCCAA National Championship in 1977 with a win over Olivet Nazarene University. He won a second NAIA District 9 championship in 1978 and then led BNC to its third NCCAA National Championship Tournament in 1979. The only loss of Poteet's career in NCCAA National Tournament play came in the semifinals to host Tennessee Temple College by one (1) point, 64-63. The following evening, his BNC team, defeated his alma mater, PLNU, in the last game he coached at BNC. Two (2) NCCAA National championships and a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish was quite an accomplishment during the decade of the seventies.

Poteet has been active in sport evangelism since 1966. He has played and coached on five of the seven world continents and has consulted with the basketball federations of several nations. Following his coaching stint at BNC, Poteet was hired to coach Athletes in Action USA and led them to a 39-6 record in the 1979-80 season. The record included wins over North Carolina State, New Mexico, Florida, Florida State, Rutgers, Connecticut, Penn State, Oregon, Marquette and the USSR Olympic team. The win over the USSR Olympic team was televised throughout Europe and was a highlight of the season as the US boycotted the 1980 Olympic Games.

Poteet completed a doctoral degree in sport administration at Oklahoma State University in 1999 and has spent the last fifteen years working in several venues. He spent 3 years as a consultant to the president of the NAIA and founded the

Champions of Character program. He also founded an after-school program in 2001 for his local church, Bethany First Church of the Nazarene that serves 250 students each afternoon. In 2009, Poteet was hired to develop a sport management degree program at Southwestern Christian University. The program is now the largest major on the campus.

Dr. Poteet also assisted SCU athletics director, Mark Arthur, in the move to scholarship sports and the addition of many new intercollegiate athletic programs. His expertise led to the move to NCCAA Division I and membership in the NAIA and the Sooner Athletic Conference.

Poteet was named to the Pasadena College/Point Loma Nazarene Hall of Fame in 2002. In 2013, he and wife, Peggy, received the Distinguished Service Award for the Church of the Nazarene, the highest award for a layperson in the denomination. In addition, Poteet was honored in 2014 by his selection to the NAIA Hall of Fame. The Jim Poteet Conference Center at Southwestern Christian University was dedicated in May 2016 in his honor.

Jim has been married to Peggy for fifty-five (55) years. Dr. Peggy Poteet retired in December 2016, from a forty year career in higher education. They are the parents of 2 sons, Joshua and Brandon. They also have 2 grandchildren, Avery and Cole.

At the conclusion of the 2016-17 academic year, Jim and Peggy moved to Olathe, Kansas to be near their grandchildren.

Dr. Poteet was hired on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 as the Vice-President of Athletics and Advancement at Kansas Christian College in Overland Park.