

To: City Council Members

From: Jerry Chabola

RE: Rick Hudson and Rick Hudson Field

Dear City Council Members,

Our Culver City Community lost a valuable asset and wonderful human being when Rick Hudson died August 2014. It is now time, and appropriate, that he be recognized for his commitment to our community. I knew Rick for over 15 years. He was about young people and our City. His list of accomplishments are attached. However, on a personal level I want you to know how great a man he was. Always looking for way to improve and provide assistance for situations that he encountered, he became a tremendous mentor in many ways for our youth.

It was a privilege to work with him as he became a volunteer like no other. There have been many people in Culver City who have given of their time and talents, however not many have been as diverse as Coach Rick Hudson. He volunteered not only as a participant but took a leadership role in almost every activity. He was President of the Culver City Little League, worked as liaison for the Challenger Program, continued the development of the Girls Softball Program and for good measure took on the role of manager and coach. He continued these efforts in the Culver City Babe Ruth Program. He was also responsible for bringing back the Culver City Bruins Pop Warner Youth Football Program to Culver City where he also served as a board member and coach.

While working with the Culver City Police Officers Association he annually volunteered to be Santa on the Sleigh. When the sleigh needed an upgrade, he was there to make sure it happened resulting in a new and improved version that all of us have enjoyed the last two Christmas Seasons. While working with the CCPOA he again volunteered to be a mentor for At Risk Youth and made an impact with those in need.

Rick was also a devoted member of the Culver City Exchange Club where he worked tirelessly to make club activities such huge successes. As a board member, Car Show leader, 4<sup>th</sup> of July Show, Fiesta La Ballona booth coordinator and finally the essence of what is now known as the Rick Hudson Beer and Wine Garden he was more than an presence, he was a spearhead.

As Rick would advise all of us, the youth of our community are ours to mentor and guide no matter what capacity they choose to participate. As such, he continued his commitment to our youth by moving from the youth programs to Culver City High School. Rick volunteered to help coach the Girls Varsity Softball and Frosh Football teams. He was one of our volunteer coaches who helped many teens through some difficult times. By the way, he was not a paid position coach as he would say "it's for the kids". As a high school coach he volunteered to assist the fundraising for the CCHS Booster Club for both the Casino Night and Game Day Program sales at Varsity football games.

Of his many accomplishments he was most proud of the fact that the City Council choose to appoint him to the Human Service and Parks Commission of which he served as Chairperson prior to his death. An appointment that very much sums up the feelings and recognition that our community had for all his participation and commitment.

Rick Hudson was a man for us all, yet most of all “for the kids”. In everything he did from his own children, grandchildren, little league, Pop Warner Football, Santa, Exchange Club Events, Culver City High School Coach and finally a member of the Human Service & Parks Commission it should be acknowledged that he was a leader who wanted nothing more than to give back to his community and the young people of Culver City.

It is with great pride that I am asking the City Council to agendaize for discussion the recognition of Coach Rick Hudson for all his work by naming one of the three little league fields at Culver City Park the

**RICK HUDSON MEMORIAL FIELD**

in tribute to a great man who truly knew the meaning of **SERVICE TO OUR CITY.**

Sincerely,

Jerry Chabola

Retired Athletic Director CCHS

**Former**

CCLL Softball Coordinator, Baseball Manager

CC Babe Ruth President

Culver City Bruins President

Member of the CC Human Service and Parks Commission