



PAUL EXLEY 1962—2020

Pennsylvania Babe Ruth State Commissioner Paul Exley of Royersford, Pennsylvania, died on May 20, 2020, following a battle with cancer. A graduate of Spring-Ford in the late 1970s, he was 58 years old. With the news of his passing spreading, prominent individuals from the Spring-Ford and Pottsgrove communities remembered a man described by one person as a “happy, loyal and dedicated gentle giant.”

Professionally, Paul was employed as an Assistant Middle School Athletic Director and EMT for Pottsgrove. He had such a positive influence on anyone that he came in contact with. There wasn't a day where he did not have a smile on his face. He truly loved being around youth athletes, student-athletes, coaches, and athletics. He was all about 'paying it forward' and going above and beyond for athletes anyway possible.

Over the last few years, the Pottsgrove Middle and High school have been recipients of the Pioneer Athletic Conference Sportsmanship Award. Paul was one of the major factors as to why they received these awards. As the student-athletes start playing organized sports in seventh grade, Paul had a craft of educating them on all the important values of athletics right from the beginning.

Paul was also lauded for his presence on the sideline for high-school football games even though it wasn't required for him to do that. His help on Friday nights was appreciated - he was always there, helpful. He didn't have to come to the games, but he did, for the kids and the sports. Sportsmanship was always Paul's number one priority. You would know that from the minute you came in contact with Paul as one of his athletes or coaches.

Paul always put the youth of his community first, working hard in the operation of the Spring-Ford Babe Ruth Baseball program. His motto was to keep kids playing baseball that otherwise would not have had the opportunity.”

In addition to serving at the local league level, Paul was involved with the Pennsylvania State organization for many years, mainly overseeing the 16-18 Division. In 2019, he was elected State Commissioner for Pennsylvania Babe Ruth Leagues. Paul's energy, enthusiasm and dedication to the Babe Ruth program was an asset to all the leagues involved.

Another measure of Paul's character was how he approached life after receiving his cancer diagnosis. He was diagnosed with Stage 4 rectal cancer in March 2018. As he was battling cancer, there were days he would go to work and did not feel great. To no surprise, he would find that smile and energy to give 100% to the student-athletes and programs. That was Paul.”

To all who know Paul, he was, and will always be, the epitome of what a human being should stand for: A classy, decent, loving human being who put others before himself ... A totally selfless man who made everywhere he went better than how he found it.”

Paul Exley is survived by wife Lori and sons Charlton and Kyle.

