



IRBY LUQUETTE
OCTOBER 24, 1926—DECEMBER 25, 2016

Irby Joseph Luquette, 96, of Abbeville, Louisiana, went to be with his Lord and Savior on Christmas Day, 2016. What a blessing to join Christ in heaven on His birthday.

Irby shared his love of the game of baseball with Babe Ruth League participants for over 62 years. He positively shaped the lives of many youngsters, serving as a coach, manager, umpire, League President, District Director, State Commissioner, Regional Commissioner, Tournament Director and World Series consultant. In fact, Luquette was the coach of the first Louisiana state champion team when he coached the 1962 Vermilion Babe Ruth team. (Even after he retired from Babe Ruth League, Irby continued to watch the local Vermilion teams compete.)

In addition to being involved with Babe Ruth at the local league, state and regional levels, Irby served numerous terms as a Tournament Director for many District, State and Regional Tournaments. In 1974, he served on the World Series committee in Abbeville. This was the very first tournament to show a profit, also breaking the record for attendance at that time. Also, Luquette helped prepare the Abbeville facility for the first Bambino World Series to be hosted in Louisiana in 1995.

Irby was recognized both locally and nationally for his contributions to youth baseball with a ballfield named after him in Abbeville to being inducted into the International Babe Ruth League Hall of Fame. Over the last four years, the family established the Irby J. Luquette Scholarship Program in conjunction with the Babe Ruth League Alumni Association, which provides college tuition to underprivileged high school students who exemplify the character and work ethic that Irby exemplified himself.

