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Heaven’s team just got stronger

I just cam home from the Kentucky Moun-tain Laurel Festival and heard about the passing of Mark Terry. Former classmate and team-mate. Perhaps one of the downfalls on not being on Facebook or social media. Nevertheless, when I heard the news, it came fast and strong, just like Mark.

Mark and I were in the same class until the 8 th grade when he elected to stay back along with classmate Bill Bowling. They were the original Tango and Cash playing Football and Basketball and enjoyed fishing just as much. Both excelled at

all. Both were members of the Dirty Dozen, and both went on to excel on the Varsity level as well. Tango and Cash. I was a friend of Mark’s, but they were great friends of each other. When we did play together on the football team, we all shared duties on offense. The best was defense with Mark playing safe-ty, Bill playing DB on the left side while I took DB on the right. Hard hitting and intercep-tions would come; Bill scooped a fumble the year after I left and took it to the endzone and team to the Regional.

Mark was also an outstanding basketball






player. Both sports led to his being named to Pineville’s best being inducted into the Hall of Fame. After I came home from college one weekend, I asked him about the football and incredible season he had. He simply and quietly said “I give Glory to God.”

Mark’s parents from what I can remember were hard working people and his mother Dorothy always had that beautiful smile along with her kindness. I remember perhaps when Mark turned 12 she hosted his birthday party where we took to the Kentucky Avenue

pavement as if it were the frozen tundra , Mark began his craft dodging tacklers, cars, trucks, “John Baby “on his bike and anyone who dared tried to touch or tackle him. Mark’s brothers Eddie and Randy were two of the best line-men to come out of the mountains and Jimbo one of the best basket-ball players. The Terry’s were sports version of the Cartwrights yet no episode of Bonanza every had more accurate shooting than Mark and Jimbo on the basketball court. Two separate episodes two separate teams. All Terry teams went on to the District

or Regional champion-ships putting them up there with The Bishops that had Lee, Fred and Eddie. Jimbo, played with Fred and Eddie and were members of one the best basketball teams Pineville has ever had - if not the single best. Years ago, I had surgery at the Pineville hospi-tal. One evening I was looking out the window when I heard a simple knock. It was Mark. He had that same smile his mother had and quietly walked in and said he heard I was in the hospital. It had been years since I had seen him, and we talked briefly when he


looked at me and asked if he could pray for me. He held my hand and led us in prayer. I then realized what a complete man he was. Never asking for any attention, never asking for anything. A hard working and quiet man who could do it all. I knew he was smart, fast and strong but had some but no idea he was indeed this spiritually strong which now makes me think, if they play sports in heaven, Team Heaven just got stronger. Thank you Mark for the example you left for all of us. Rest well and play hard. You deserve it. James Combs



BOOK FAIR

Coming Soon!

Get ready to relive your favorite childhood memories at our Community Book Fair!



Browse through a wide selection of books, discover new favorites, and rediscover old classics.

And the best part? Thanks to Pineville's Innovative Approaches to Literacy Grant, every attendee gets to choose a free book to take home!

June 2-4 from 11-2pm

Bell Theater

We will also be open during Sip’n Shop Tuesday evening.