Concord High School
Tribute Night

HONORING

Charlie Smith

Concord High School
2501 Ebright Road, Wilmington, DE 19810

April 11-12, 2015
5:00 p.m.

Dennis P. Williams, Mayor
City of Wilmington

WILMINGTON CITY COUNCIL

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Greetings & Opening Remarks
Introductions
Jersey Presentation to Family Members
Unveiling of the School Jersey
Closing Remarks

Pictured above (original caption): Irene Turner holds the jersey of her son - Charlie Smith - after his No. 20 was retired prior to Concord High’s game with Howard Tuesday night. Smith, a two-time all-stater who also played at Old Dominion, died on May 15 due to complications from diabetes. He was 35. Smith’s old coach Bill McLaughlin presented the jersey to Turner. (Source: News Journal article from January 1999.)
Charlie is one of only three Delaware players in state basketball history (and the only Concord H. S. player in school history) to be invited to the U.S.A. Olympic Trials in 1984 - 85.

College Career

Charlie played at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA from 1981-1985. He was chosen All Sun Belt Conference player in 1983-1985. He scored 1,246 points at Old Dominion University leading his team to three (3) consecutive NCAA Tournament berths. He was named youngest captain (in school history) of his ODU basketball team in his sophomore year, and again as a junior and senior. As an ODU freshman in 1982 he was selected to the All-American Team by Basketball Weekly Magazine. He was selected to the 1984 National Invitational Tournament Team that travelled worldwide. He is 11th all-time in assists at Old Dominion University. He was selected to the Old Dominion University Sports Hall of Fame in 2004. Charlie received a degree in Management Information in 1985. Coached at ODU by Paul Webb and Oliver Purnell.

Work and Family

After college, he worked at PNC Bank in Delaware and was last employed at Applied Card Services and Brown Boys and Girls Club. Due to diabetes, Charlie sadly passed away at the age of 35, May 15, 1998 from heart surgery complications at the University of Pennsylvania.

On April 21, 2007, Charlie was inducted posthumously to the Delaware Afro-American Hall of Fame. His daughter Natasha Smith of Norfolk, VA is currently a senior at Old Dominion University.
CHARLIE SMITH was born in Wilmington, Delaware on March 1, 1963 to mother Irene Smith Turner and father Harry Smith. Charlie was the youngest of seven (7) brothers. Growing up, he attended Wilmington area public schools. Charlie Smith played basketball at Concord High School from 1979-1981 and upon graduation in 1981 he was the all-time leading scorer in school history with 1,066 points. Charlie was chosen Delaware First Team All-State (2) years in a row, 1980 & 1981 (only Concord player in school history). Charlie was chosen as Delaware Player of the Year in 1981 (only Concord player in school history). He was selected First Team All-Flight B in 1980 and 1981, and was also named to several All-American Teams in 1981. Charlie is the only player in Concord H.S. history to lead the State of Delaware in scoring in 1981 with an average of 26.0 per game. He was chosen in 1981 as one of the Top 50 Players in America, and he was chosen as an High School All-American in 1981, first time for a Concord player. Charlie was selected to the Philadelphia Inquirer Newspaper All-Area First Team. Charlie played on the only State Championship team at Concord High in 1979, where he scored the game winning free throws at the Delaware Fieldhouse versus Indian River High School. Charlie Smith was coached at Concord High by Coach Rick Albertson and Coach Bill McLaughlin. He led Concord to a 60 - 6 record during his high school career. Honored in 1981 at the New York Athletic Club for scoring 46 points in a basketball game featuring the Delaware High School Allstars vs Philadelphia High School Sonny Hill Allstars at Bancroft School in Wilmington, Charlie personally received the award from the NFL great O. J. Simpson.