

Rohrbaugh...from Page 1A



never be replaced. Ed Rohrbaugh began his teaching career in Union County at Union County Middle School in 1991 where he was a teacher and coach.

Later, Ed Rohrbaugh became principal at Union County Middle School, and later, at Union County High School.

He would then go on to hire some of his former students and players, including current Union County High School Principal John Hill.

"I was fortunate enough to meet Coach Rohrbaugh 22 years ago as a student in his Union County Middle School classroom," Hill said. "It was his second year teaching and my first year in middle school."

"While talking with some former classmates this past week, a friend of mine commented, 'he made learning fun,'" Hill said. "He was always encouraging students with that million dollar smile and a reassuring word. He always took extra time to check on our special needs students."

When Hill was named principal last summer, Ed Rohrbaugh was at the top of his list of people he wanted to thank, and he credited Ed Rohrbaugh as being a mentor to him during his teaching and school administrative positions.

"As a coach, he was able to reach out and make an impact upon so many young people here in Union County," Hill said. "So many of us were fortunate enough to play for and be coached by him. He was always joking, yet at the same time encouraging kids, and his attitude was always positive and light-hearted."

Presiding over Ed Rohrbaugh's funeral service, were longtime friends the Rev. George Dillard and former pupil, and current Union County Head Boys Basketball Coach, the Rev. Casey Jones.

His service included story after story told by former Union County Panther quarterback Robby Brown and Jones about their fond memories of Ed Rohrbaugh's Union County coaching days.

"Coach Rohrbaugh was always full of joy and laughter," Jones said. "I never saw him mad or down about anything. He was the type of guy that loved having a good time. I will always remember him being a very caring person, and one that



had a special place in his heart for students at our school."

Rev. Dillard gave a humorous and insightful look into Ed Rohrbaugh's youth, when he was known as "Eddie" Rohrbaugh.

He told of Ed Rohrbaugh's playing days on the gridiron, basketball court, the baseball diamond and of course, the asphalt track that etched him into the state record books.

His siblings, Mike Rohrbaugh and Harriett Rohrbaugh provided a glimpse into his early years and the man, leader, mentor, and role model he would become to everyone he touched.

Not only as an educator, but, to others who were fortunate to cross his path away from the halls of Union County schools.

"Ed was an exceptional leader, and his one defining trait that stands out in my mind was that he truly cared about people. Ed cared about students, teachers, parents, and our community," Hill said. "He was always there to support us as employees and to listen to our concerns."

"The best tribute we can pay to Ed Rohrbaugh is to continue moving forward and treat people the way he would have treated them; and for Ed, that meant we are to care about our fellow man and show compassion to the less fortunate," Hill said.

Ed Rohrbaugh recently served as director over the Athletic Committee that was put in place prior to the 2012-13 school year. One of those who worked with Ed Rohrbaugh on the committee was Hussion, who was making the jump to an administrative position and

Ed Rohrbaugh always had his back.

He was always available to lend a helping hand or some sound advice to whomever, and whenever it was needed, Hussion said.

"As you go through the journey of life, you will come across certain people that help make you who you are," Hussion said. "Ed was one of the people that not only helped make me who I am, but also helped shape the life of countless others."

"Lastly, Ed was a good friend," Hussion said. "He was just one of those guys that made you feel special. He would drop whatever he was doing to help out if you needed him and, in return, he knew that he could count on you. If he ever needed help, 33 people would show up. That's just the type of guy he was. Thank you Ed Rohrbaugh for being such a great man. We will miss you."

Union County Assistant Principal Jennifer Ludlum served as Rohrbaugh's assistant for 10 years and was touched when a former student approached her at Mountain View Funeral Home.

"The other night at the funeral home, a former student told me, 'Mr. Rohrbaugh is the reason I graduated,' and I know this is true," Ludlum said. "Just as he guided each of his students through high school, his wisdom and love will continue to guide us throughout our lives."

"Mr. Rohrbaugh was my friend," she added. "I loved him very much and will miss him dearly."

"His lifetime of dedication and self-sacrifice serve as a monument to the exemplary man he was," she said. "His hu-

mility, integrity, and hard work continue to inspire those who knew him.

"I was not finished learning from Mr. Rohrbaugh," she said. "Professionally, he made me who I am today. He faced the world with unparalleled hope and optimism. His passion for learning inspired me and will forever."

Murder...from Page 1A

aided by GBI Crime Scene investigators secured the scene shortly after noon on Saturday.

A team of investigators went door-to-door in the neighborhood, talking with neighbors.

Investigators continue to explore all avenues in bringing a killer, or killers to justice.

Fox grew up in the Union County community and attended Union County Schools. He had a checkered past, suffering from substance abuse issues. He had spent brief periods in the early 80s in state prison.

He returned to state prison again in 1983 and spent three years behind bars.

Fox spent minor stretches in state prison in 1994, 1999, and in 2003. His stints in state prison were primarily substance control issues.

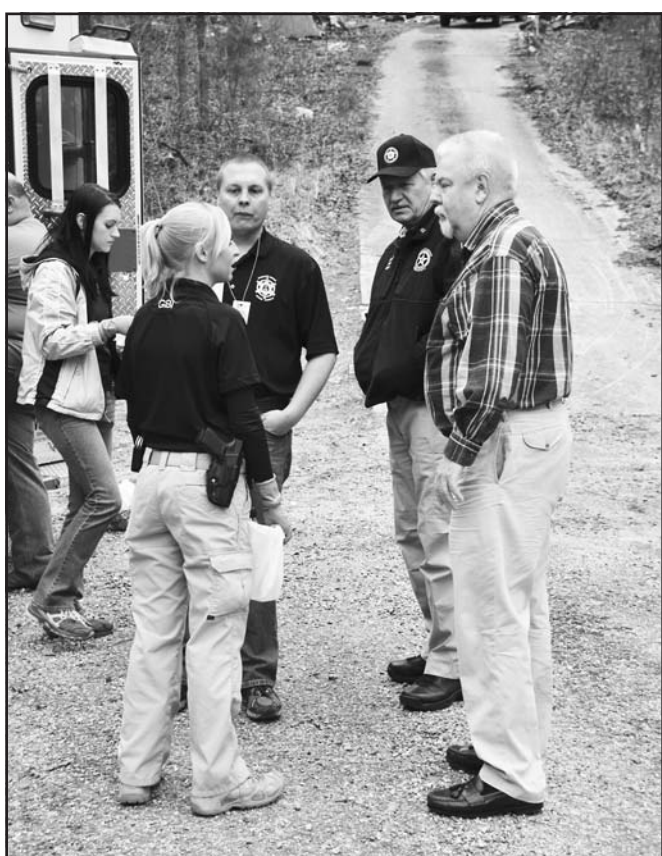
He was released from state prison in 2004 and has had no run-ins with law enforcement over the past 10 years. Fox had health issues as well.

"He had a checkered past, but, nobody deserves this," Sheriff Mason said.

Sheriff Mason said that anyone with information about the violent crime committed against Fox, call (706) 439-6066.

All information will be kept confidential.

Meanwhile, there were four murders in Union County in 2013. All four crimes were domestic related. One murder



Union County Sheriff Mack Mason discusses the murder case on Brown Ridge Road with investigators, and Union County Coroner Benny Erwin on Saturday. Photo/Charles Duncan

suspect, Anthony Payne, accused of killing his father and stepmother on April 2, 2013, claimed his own life the next morning.

Frank Miller, 80, of Miller Cove Road, who allegedly murdered his 59-year-old daughter Colleen Grant on Sept. 1, 2013, has been indicted by a Union County Grand

Jury and remains in custody.

Robert Taylor, who allegedly beat his wife Fran Taylor to death in late November, is behind bars awaiting justice in the Union County Jail.

Visit the *North Georgia News* website at nganews.com for more details as they become available.