



## RICE LAKE SPORTS HALL OF FAME

RICE LAKE, WISCONSIN



*Earl Clanton*

Earl graduated from Shell Lake in 1921. He was a two sport athlete in football and baseball and was team captain in both his senior year. He was also the athletic editor of the school newspaper. Prior to graduating from high school he served with the U.S. Army in WWI. After high school he attended college at Superior Normal School and River Falls Teachers College where he graduated in 1923. He then taught school and coached several sports at Iron Belt, Fifiel, Minong, Ashland and Tomahawk. In 1945 Earl came to Rice Lake as a biology teacher and Assistant Football Coach. He brought back baseball to the school in 1947. As Head Coach, he led his teams to a school best winning percentage of .700 with 112 wins and 48 losses. His teams won or tied 6 conference, 8 district, and 2 sectional championships, and played in the State tournament in 1961 and 1964. Two of his players, Johnny Schieffer and Terry Olson, both pitchers, signed contracts with the major leagues. In addition, he coached the Rice Lake American Legion Post 87 baseball team for 20 seasons, with equal success. In 1946, Clanton was appointed the City of Rice Lake's first recreation director and held that position until his retirement in 1977. On June 7, 1991, a park was dedicated in his honor. Earl Clanton Park contains two ball fields and one football field.

*Inducted into Rice Lake Sports Hall of Fame on December 5, 2004*