

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS  
AGENDA ITEM DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

**DEPARTMENT:** Parks and Recreation

**AGENDA DATE:** September 11, 2012

**CONTACT PERSON/PHONE:** Nanette Smejkal, Director (541-4283)

**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** 8

**SUBJECT:**

**APPROVE a resolution / ordinance / lease to do what? OR AUTHORIZE the City Manager to do what? Be descriptive of what we want Council to approve. Include \$ amount if applicable.**

Approve a Resolution to name the trail located between Little Lane and Montoya Lateral out of Los Paseos Addition Replat "A", El Paso, Texas as Coach Jack D. Quarles Park.

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:**

**Discussion of the what, why, where, when, and how to enable Council to have reasonably complete description of the contemplated action. This should include attachment of bid tabulation, or ordinance or resolution if appropriate. What are the benefits to the City of this action? What are the citizen concerns?**

The naming of parks and recreation facilities follows a Council adopted policy. The Applicant provided the naming application, citizen support petitions, and research. The Naming Subcommittee and the entire Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) reviewed the naming application and heard testimony from the applicant. Consensus was reached and the PRAB recommends naming the site "Coach Jack D. Quarles Park." Attached please find background materials.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

**Has the Council previously considered this item or a closely related one?**

N/A

**AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

**How will this item be funded? Has the item been budgeted? If so, identify funding source by account numbers and description of account. Does it require a budget transfer?**

The cost of signage related to the naming shall be borne by the applicant, per the Council policy.

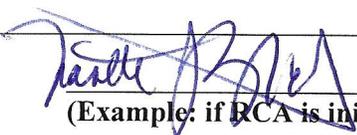
**BOARD / COMMISSION ACTION:**

**Enter appropriate comments or N/A**

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board voted unanimously on August 13, 2012 to forward the naming application to City Council for consideration with a recommendation to approve.

\*\*\*\*\*REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION\*\*\*\*\*

**LEGAL:** (if required) \_\_\_\_\_ **FINANCE:** (if required) \_\_\_\_\_

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:**  \_\_\_\_\_

(Example: if RCA is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)

*Information copy to appropriate Deputy City Manager*

**APPROVED FOR AGENDA:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY MANAGER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Council accept the recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to rename the Riverbend Linear Trail located between Little Lane and Montoya lateral out of Los Paseos Addition Replat "A", City of El Paso, El Paso County Texas, as **COACH JACK D. QUARLES PARK**.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:**

**THAT** the trail located between Little Lane and Montoya lateral out of Los Paseos Addition Replat "A", El Paso, Texas, shall henceforth be renamed and known as **COACH JACK D. QUARLES PARK**; and,

**THAT** the Quarles Family ("Applicant") shall incur the customary costs associated with the renaming of a park, such as installing or replacing signs with the park name or any other signs posted or affixed to a facility. Any proposed signs shall be acceptable to both the Parks and Recreation Department and Applicant. (District 8)

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2012.

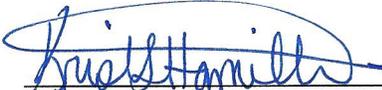
CITY OF EL PASO

\_\_\_\_\_  
John F. Cook  
Mayor

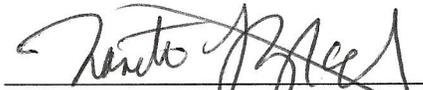
ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richarda Duffy Momsen  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kristen L. Hamilton  
Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nanette L. Smejkal, Director  
Parks and Recreation Department



**City of El Paso  
PARK NAMING/CHANGING  
Application**



**Applicant information**

Please print or type the information in black ink

Applicant Name: Michael D. Quarles  
 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: El Paso Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Organization Zach White Neighborhood Association  Non-Profit

**Proposed Name/Change**

Park/Facility Location/Address: At the corner of Little Lane and River Bend Drive  
 Current name of Park or Facility: Riverbend Linear Trail  Not Applicable

Suggested Name: Jack D. Quarles Park

Category:

- Outstanding Individual(s)  
*Acknowledges the sustained contribution that has been made by such individual(s) to the City of El Paso and/or the development and management of the City's park and recreation system.*
- Common usage identifying the Neighborhood  
*Acknowledges the geographic location or common name that gives a particular identity to a neighborhood.*
- Historical Event, Person, Place  
*Preserves and honors the history of El Paso, its founders, other historical figures or local landmarks.*
- Natural or Geographical Feature to the area  
*Acknowledges a prominent or unique natural or geological feature in the surrounding area.*
- Benefit/Organization Acknowledgement  
*Major gift, acknowledges the significant benefit of a donation*
- Other  
*Describe:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA  
PARKS AND RECREATION  
STAFF ONLY**

Date Received by PARD: 5/31/12 (update)  
 Date of Committee Meeting: 8/13/12 MJ  
 Date of PRAB Meeting: 8/13/12 MJ  
 Date of City Council Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_



## PARK NAMING/CHANGING



### Supporting Documentation

Suggested Name: Jack D. Quarles Park

Please provide a written narrative that supports the nomination for consideration. If proposing to name a park or facility after an outstanding person, a biography must also be attached and include material that identifies the individual's significance and notable reputation in the City of El Paso.

Coach Jack D. Quarles is synonymous with high school football in El Paso. For many El Pasoans hearing the name will initiate an impromptu discourse on the legacy of the man and the impression he made.

The following narrative includes excerpts and quotes from an article printed in The El Paso Times on April 14, 2003, written by Lenny Jurado and titled Quarles Remembered as More than a Coach.

The "mark of the man," sports reporter Steve Hill of KROD-AM (600) said, may be the relationships Quarles formed with his players and how he prepared them for life after football.

"The first year Coronado had its (Hall of Fame) banquet (in 2001), he and coach Brooks were inducted and then the best players from his first five years were brought back, and they came from all over the United States for one night to be with him.

"He turned out doctors, lawyers and pilots – that's the kind of athletes he was able to make," said Hill.

The players appreciated him because "he treated everybody like a family member. He had a high regard for everybody who was there," said Pryor Nunn, a 1969 Coronado grad who played fullback.

And he never forgot a player.

"He could tell you every kid who played for him, his stats and what he's doing now," said Chris Mangold, a running back for Quarles from 1969 to 1973.

"The reason we enjoyed playing for him was that he made it so much fun," 1970 Coronado graduate and All-America center Garth Jones said. "He was really something."

"He was just a great person, and he was probably one of the most honest

Attach additional pages if needed. Supporting documentation is encouraged for all applications to help justify why this name should be chosen.



PARK NAMING/CHANGING



Supporting Documentation

Suggested Name: Jack D. Quarles Park

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(cont.)

people who ever lived," Brooks said. "He was one of those people who seemed almost too good to be true."

Coaching high school football and shaping young lives was not Jack's only passion. Preserving the quality of life in the upper valley (particularly the Zach White neighborhood area) was important for the long-time resident, respected El Paso educator, and coach. The beauty of the Rio Grande Valley with its quiet, safe country-pace; great schools; churches; and diverse group of genuinely friendly people led Jack and his wife Jean to settle in the upper valley in the late 1960's to raise their four children. The Quarles children walked to school at Zach White Elementary before attending Coronado High School where many upper valley youth attended Quarles' classes and played on teams he coached.

Growing up in the upper valley included: horseback riding, bicycling, fishing and crawfish catching in the canals and the river; playing at Marwood Park; collecting sacks of pecans from neighborhood trees; swimming and camping at the Girl Scout and Boy Scout facilities; and getting together on weekends with family, friends, and neighbors.

Two of the Quarles children have returned to the upper valley and are raising their families in the Zach White neighborhood for the same reasons their parents settled here 50 years ago: a quality of life unique to the upper valley of El Paso.

In 2002 Jack Quarles championed the cause to have the River Bend extension removed from the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). As a member of the Zach White Neighborhood Association, he advocated protecting the quality of life that we all cherish as residents of this area by bringing an end to the plans that would extend River Bend Drive through the neighborhood and connect it to Sunland Park Drive.

Jack and Jean enjoyed daily walks and bike rides in and around the park that we are proposing be named in his honor. We share his vision of maintaining the landscape of the upper

Attach additional pages if needed. Supporting documentation is encouraged for all applications to help justify why this name should be chosen.



## Biography for Mr. Jack D. Quarles

Jack Quarles was born in Waco, Texas and grew up in Houston, Texas. He graduated from Austin High School in Houston, and received a BS and M. Ed. in Health, Physical Education, and Administration from the University of Houston.

He began his coaching career with the Houston Independent School District. In 1953, he was drafted into the U.S. Army, and stationed at Fort Bliss and White Sands Missile Range. He was married for 48 years to Jean Quarles and had 4 children and 6 grandchildren.

He began coaching in the El Paso Independent School District at El Paso High School as a "B" Team football coach.

In 1962, he was selected to be the first Head Coach at Coronado High School. From 1962 to 1976, his football teams were in the state playoffs 12 times and in the state quarterfinals 2 times. Jack was also the head football coach at Fabens High School, Lubbock Coronado High School, and Canutillo High School. His overall head coaching record was approximately 180 wins and 75 losses.

Jack was named Campus Teacher of the Year at Coronado High School in 1993. He was inducted into the El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame in 1996 and into the Golden T-Bird Hall of Fame in 2001. He was a member of the Texas Classroom Teachers Association, and the Texas High School Coaches Association. He retired after 42 years of coaching and teaching, 20 of those years were at El Paso Coronado High School.

In his retirement years, he enjoyed fishing, bicycling, gardening, cooking, and spending time with his grandchildren and his dogs.

Long time resident of the Zach White neighborhood, in 2002 he took up the cause to have the River Bend extension removed from the MPO. He, along with many other hard working neighbors, including Susan Martinez and Sandy Galanter, wrote letters to city and state government officials. He went door-to-door handing out flyers, and attended numerous meetings. He researched data and presented his concerns to his neighborhood association.

Jack passed away in 2003, not knowing that the River Bend extension was finally removed from the MPO.



Quarles remembered as more than a coach

# Quarles remembered as more than a coach

By Lenny Jurado

El Paso Times

He was known as the man who put Coronado football on the map, a sound coach who could inspire almost anyone to be better than he really was.

Off the gridiron, Jack Quarles was called a kind, humorous man whose integrity was rivaled only by his passion for the game.

El Paso lost a piece of its history when Quarles died on April 5, but probably no one will forget how Quarles took a new school in 1965 and made it into a bona fide state contender.

"He was the reason we won," said Terry Moreland, a defensive back under Quarles in 1967. "It was his coaching methods, his football philosophy, the way he communicated and the way the players strived to do what he desired."

"The man was phenomenal." An El Paso Athletic Hall of Fame inductee, Quarles made a name for himself from 1965 to 1976 by building a program that went 104-27-7 under his watch.

In its first season, Coronado finished 3-6-1, but Quarles quickly molded the Thunderbirds into a 9-1-1 district champion the next year, kicking off a string of 11 consecutive district titles.

During one seven-year span (1966-72), the T-birds put up a 66-11-2 record, with seven of the losses coming in the playoffs.

"Undoubtedly, (Quarles) meant a great deal to the team... You always ask, 'Who was the father of this?' or 'Who was the father of that?' and I would say the father of Coronado football was definitely coach Jack Quarles," said Andress coach Allan Sepkowitz, an assistant when Andress played against Quarles T-Birds from 1965 to 1976.

## Quarles the coach

Some of Quarles' most notable accomplishments came when he led Coronado to regional titles in 1973 and 1975 before losing in the state quarterfinals.



Brooks

Carpenter

The Thunderbirds have made it past the area round only one other time, in 1979 under current coach Don Brooks.

Through all the victories, Quarles was not known to boast and was never a tough coach to his athletes.

"He wasn't ever verbally abusive. He was just an absolute joy to be out there with," said Chris Mangold, a running back for Quarles from 1969 to 1973 and also president of Coronado's Golden T-Bird Football Hall of Fame.

Known for drilling the fundamentals into his team and dressing his locker room with motivational material, Quarles never shied away from the Midland Lees or Odessa Permians.

"We would play the toughest people we could find. He would say, 'If you're going to get better, you have to play good people,'" said Coronado baseball coach John Carpenter, a long-time football assistant to Quarles. "To me, he was the football man in El Paso."

In 1975, Quarles' Thunderbirds — led by Parade Magazine All-America linebacker Lance Taylor — tied Odessa Permian 14-14 but lost on penetrations in a memorable quarterfinal playoff game.

"Coronado came within one first down of beating them in the Sun Bowl, and Permian went to the state finals that year," said Steve Hill of KRQD-AM (600). "Coronado was driving toward the end of the game, and they needed to reach inside the 20 to get a penetration, but they missed it by 9 yards."

The Quarles era at Coronado was postponed when the coach

left in 1976.

After a short stint as an administrator at Region 19, Quarles moved on to coaching spots at Fabens, Lubbock Coronado and Canutillo before filling an assistant position at Burges.

In 1990, Quarles was lured back to Coronado as an assistant to Brooks and stayed through the 1994 season.

"He was a team player, and we worked well together," Brooks said. "There was no controversy, but the principal at the time said, 'You don't want to hire him because he could get your job, but I told him that if I'm winning, I'll keep my job and if I don't then he'll get it but I'd soon enough him have the job than anybody else.'"

## Quarles the father

Born on August 25, 1929, in Waco, Quarles graduated from Austin High in Houston, where he qualified for the state track meet in 1946 on the mile relay.

He earned his master's degree in health and physical education at the University of Houston, and was soon drafted into the Army.

Quarles arrived in El Paso in 1952 and met his wife-to-be, Betty Jean. He later landed his first coaching job at Edison Junior High in Houston.

El Paso drew him back, and Quarles spent one year as the B-team coach at El Paso High before laying the foundation for Coronado football in 1965.

A man who enjoyed fishing, wood-working and gardening almost as much as football, Quarles grew to become "a loving husband and father and a friend to his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren," said his wife of 48 years.

His three sons, Jack Frank, Michael and Gary — who played high school football for him between 1973 and 1982 — "thought of him less as a coach, but more as father," said Gary, who also has a sister, Cheryl.

Growing up, the trio spent "quite a few summers at high

school helping dad because he... would spend a lot of time painting helmets and lockers and sewing uniforms," Michael said.

## Forever a legend

However, the "mark of the man," Hill said, may be the relationships Quarles formed with his players and how he prepared them for life after football.

"The first year Coronado had its (Hall of Fame) banquet (in 2001), he and coach Brooks were inducted and then the best players from his first five years were brought back, and they came from all over the United States for one night to be with him."

"He turned out doctors, lawyers and pilots — that's the kind of athletes he was able to make," said Hill, adding that Quarles put off prostate cancer surgery to reunite with his boys.

The players appreciated him because "he treated everybody like a family member. He had a high regard for everybody who was there," said Pryor Nunn, a 1969 Coronado grad who played fullback.

And he never forgot a player. It helped having every team picture framed in a room that took you on a waltz back in time.

"He could tell you every kid who played for him, his stats and what he's doing now," Mangold said.

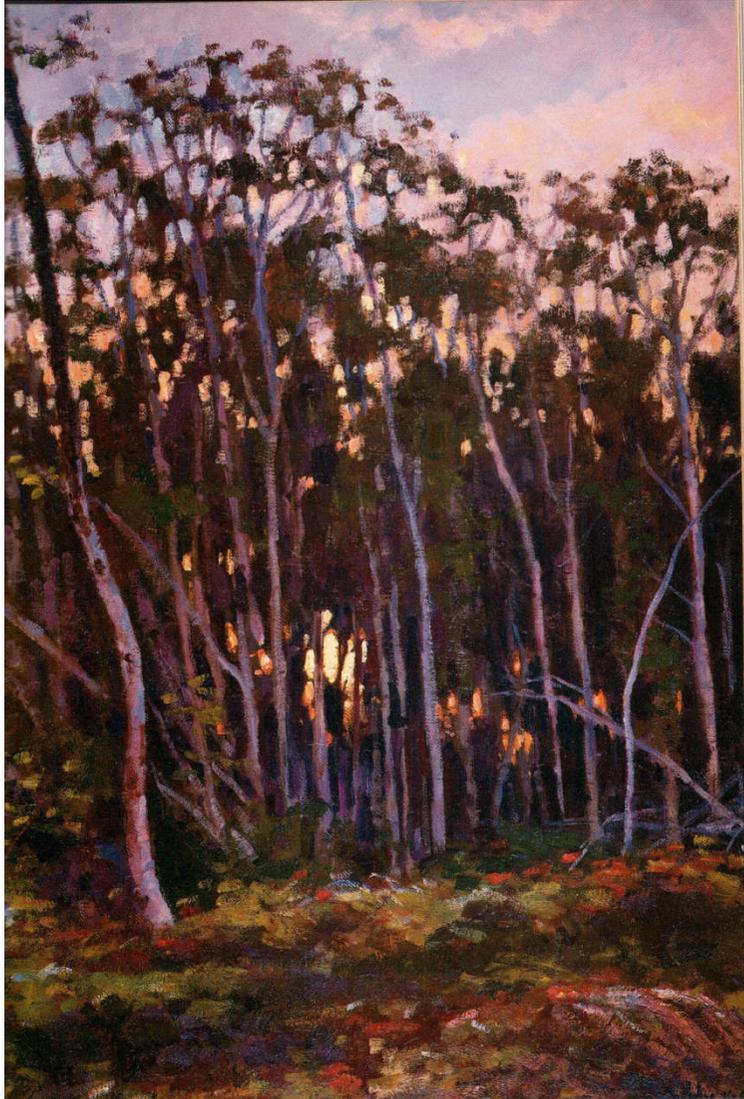
"The reason we enjoyed playing for him was that he made it so much fun," 1970 Coronado graduate and All-America center Garth Jones said. "He was really something."

A man who dominated the football landscape during the era of 25-cent game programs, Quarles will be sorely missed.

"He was just a great person, and he was probably one of the most honest people who ever lived," Brooks said. "He was one of those people who seemed almost too good to be true."

Lenny Jurado may be reached at [ljurado@elpe.5times.com](mailto:ljurado@elpe.5times.com)

*April 14, 2005*



# Park Naming

September 11, 2012



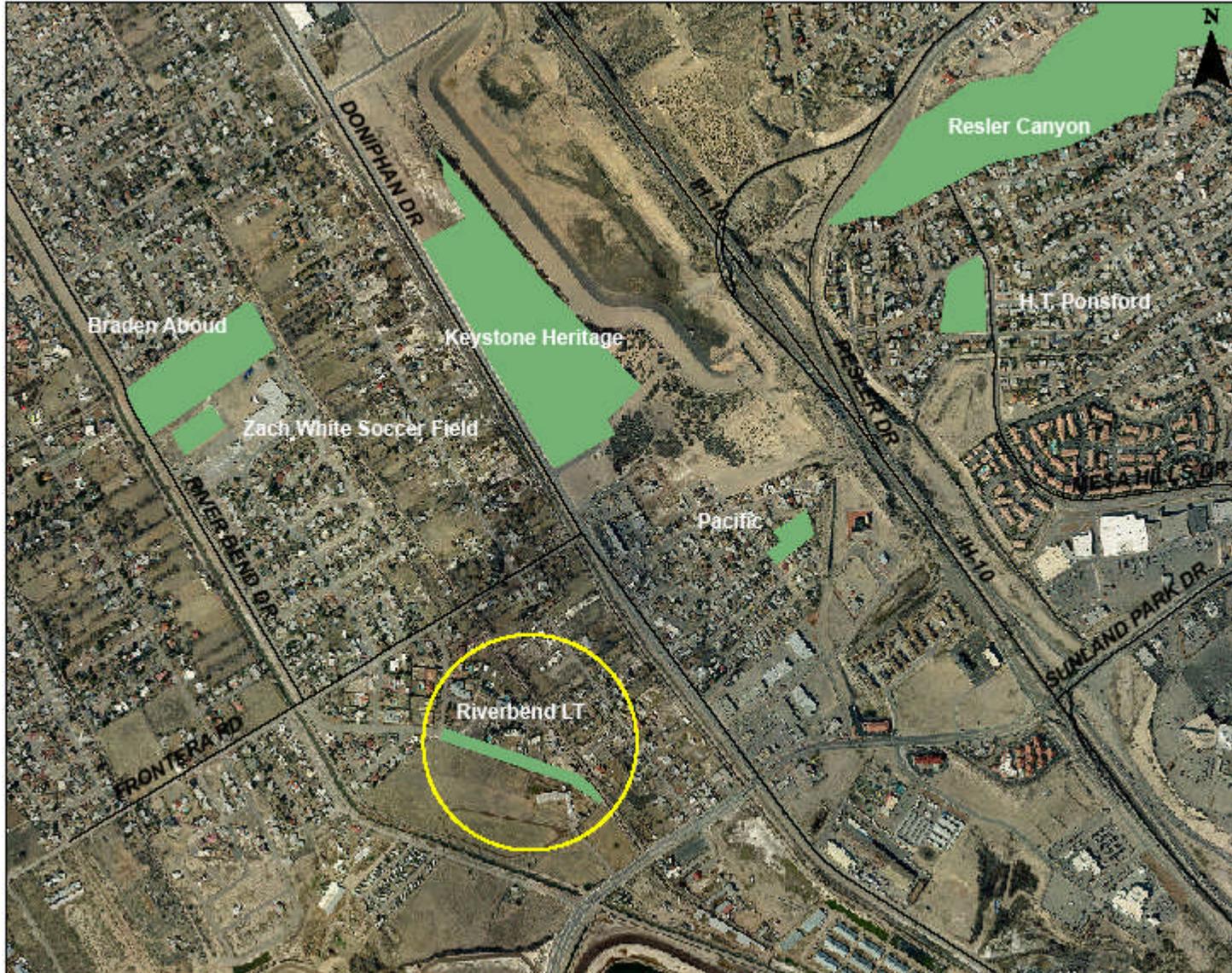


**Proposed Name / Change**

**JACK D. QUARLES  
PARK**

**For linear park site at  
Little Lane/Riverbend Drive  
El Paso, 79912**

SERVICE SOLUTIONS SUCCESS



SERVICE SOLUTIONS SUCCESS





## **Jack D. Quarles (8/29/1929 – 4/5/2003)**

- Came to El Paso in 1952 while stationed in US Army
- Became head football coach at Coronado HS opening year in 1965
- Coached Thunderbirds from 1965-1976, with a 104-27-7 record, including 11 consecutive district titles
- Called the "Father of Coronado football" by some; remembered for inspiring his players to "be better than they really were"
- Also coached at El Paso HS, Burgess HS, Fabens HS, Canutillo HS and in Region 19 Administration before retiring in 1994.
- Active resident of Upper Valley since late-1960's, including efforts to restore pre-development Cottonwood forest
- Daily walks and bike rides in and around park

S E R V I C E   S O L U T I O N S   S U C C E S S



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**Jack D. Quarles**



# QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

