

Distinguished Alumnus 2014
Gary Kirtley
Class of 1957

At Northern Oklahoma College, Perry native Gary Kirtley played football, ran track with the State JUCO Champion team and placed fifth at the National JUCO Track Meet. He earned his Master's degree in Education from Southwestern Oklahoma State University and his Oklahoma Principal's and Superintendent's Certifications from Oklahoma State University and the Oklahoma State Department of Education. After stints at several schools, he served as Emerson (Enid) Junior High Principal, eventually becoming Assistant Superintendent of Enid Public Schools. Retiring in 2003 after 44 years in education, he returned as interim Director of Technology and Director of Personnel (2007-2012). Mr. Kirtley chaired the Enid Metropolitan Area Service Commission for several years, serving on numerous committees and boards. He developed the first Alternative Education Program and an Out of School Placement Program in collaboration with the Garfield County District Attorney's Office. He received the Oklahoma Excellence in Education Award and United States Department of Education Drug Free School Award. He was inducted into the Enid Public Schools Hall of Fame.