

## HALL OF HONOR CLASS OF 2020



**DR. JOE GILLESPIE**

Joe Gillespie graduated from Coleman High School in 1966. He received his B.S. from McMurry College in 1971, a Masters of Education from Stephen F. Austin State University in 1972 and a Doctorate in Education in Physical Education from Texas A&M University in 1983. Dr. Gillespie's 44 year career at Tarleton State University has earned him many accolades. He was named Department Chair of the Health and Physical Education Department and promoted to the Dean of Education. He also served two years as Athletic Director. Dr. Gillespie was 7-time TIAA Track Coach of the Year and coached the #1 ranked defensive team in the nation (NAIA) in 1978. He was elected Chair of the NAIA District VII, Meet Director for the NAIA National Track & Field Championship and served as UIL State Track Meet Referee in 1988. In 1993, Dr. Gillespie was named Dean of Education and Fine Arts at Tarleton. He was a leader in the state of Texas serving as secretary of the state wide Deans Association and serving on several committees for the State Board of Education Certification. Dr. Gillespie has received many educational honors at the university and state levels. Among his honors, Dr. Gillespie has the unique honor of being a member of three hall-of-fames. He was inducted into the McMurry College Athletic Hall-of-Fame as player in 1995. In 1999, the College of Education at Texas A&M University selected him as a "Notable Graduate" and a member of their Academic Hall-of-Fame. In 2000, Tarleton State University selected him as a member of their Athletic Hall-of-Fame as coach. In 2011, Dr. Gillespie was honored with the title "Regents Professor" for the Texas A&M University System and in 2018 he was awarded the title "Professor Emeritus".