

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Penny Boldrey, Executive Director
Alpena Community College Foundation
(989) 358-7297**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -
Alumnus Frank McCourt Named 2017 Distinguished Graduate**

The 2017 Alpena Community College Distinguished Graduate Award was presented to alumnus Frank McCourt during the College's commencement ceremonies on May 11 in Park Arena.

A native of Ossineke, McCourt graduated from Alpena High School in 1960. Following his graduation from AHS, he enrolled in ACC and became a Lumberjack. During his two years at the College McCourt played baseball and earned an Associate in Arts degree in 1962. He transferred to Michigan State University where he obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in History in 1964, and a Master of Arts degree in Guidance and Counseling in 1966.

McCourt's first teaching assignment following his graduation from MSU was at Madison Junior High School in Pontiac, where he served as the head of the guidance and counseling department. In 1968 McCourt returned to Alpena, married his wife Judy, who worked at ACC as the secretary for Dean Jack Petoskey, and he was hired by ACC to teach economics, and to assist students in guidance and counseling.

During his 35-year tenure at ACC, McCourt has worn many hats and has held various positions and titles including Director of the Wilson Dormitory, Counselor, Director of Career Planning and Placement, Coordinator of Athletics and Head Coach of the basketball teams.

Over three decades, McCourt coached men's and women's basketball at ACC. He has received numerous honors and awards throughout his career including Junior College Coach of the Year, and Athletic Director of the Year from the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan. While McCourt officially retired from his faculty position in 2003, he continued to coach men's basketball.

After 50-years of coaching basketball, which includes 30 years at ACC, McCourt officially "threw in the towel" this past March and retired from coaching. However, he remains a Lumberjack and will now focus solely on his role as ACC's Athletic Director.

Teaching, counseling and coaching are McCourt's life work. He leaves an impressive legacy and his influence on students extends far beyond the basketball court. Not only was he a mentor to countless student-athletes, but to all ACC students.

ACC Foundation Executive Director Penny Boldrey said, "The ACC Foundation is proud to award the 2017 Distinguished Graduate Award to Frank for his professional achievements and outstanding accomplishments since his early days at ACC."

(END)