

## Rhonda Bonner Tolbert

Rhonda is a member of the Columbia High School graduating class of 1978. Rhonda was named "Outstanding Player" on the 1978 Columbia High "Elmoettes" Girls Basketball team, coached by Lois Knipling, which finished as regional champions with a 23-9 record. Rhonda went on to collegiate basketball at Cooke County College in Gainesville and later at Texas A&I University in Kingsville where she also ran track.

Rhonda competed in the Girls State Track Meet each of her four years at CHS. As a freshman she competed in both the 440 and 880 yard relays at the State Meet with both earning gold medals as 1975 UIL 3A State Champions. Joining Rhonda on those relays teams were fellow Hall of Honor members Sharion Higgins, Margo Diggs, and Erlene Williams.

As a Sophomore she qualified for the regional meet in the 100 yard dash, long jump, and 440 and 880 yard relays. The 440 relay team advanced to the State Meet in Austin and finished fourth.

As a Junior she finished first in the District track meet in the 100 yard dash, the long jump, and finished second in triple jump. That year the 440 and 880 yard relay teams once again qualified for the State Meet.

As a Senior she qualified for the Regional Track Meet in the Triple Jump, Long Jump, and both the 440 and 880 yard relays. At the 1978 State Track Meet Rhonda earned her third gold medal and finished as the UIL 3A State Champion in the Girls Long Jump with a jump of 18 feet and 3.5 inches.

Rhonda currently lives in Austin with her husband Harold Tolbert, a 1975 CHS graduate. They have been married and have 3 children and 4 grandchildren.