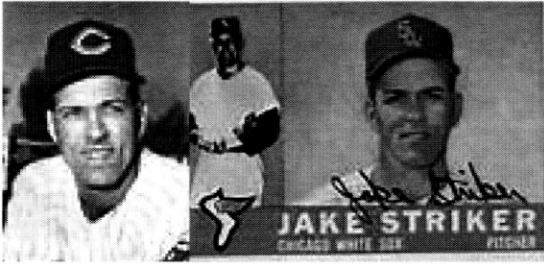


# Crawford County

## SPORTS

### HALL OF FAME



## *Wilbur Scott "Jake" Striker*

Wilbur Scott "Jake" Striker attended Sulphur Springs High School. He was born in 1933 in New Washington. He graduated in 1951 from Sulfur Springs High School. After briefly attending Heidelberg College, he started his career in 1952 and played through the 1962 season, with two years away for his military service (1956 & 1957). He was a left-handed pitcher for the Cleveland Indians and the Chicago White Sox in 1959, 1960. This 6'2", 200 pound athlete made a promising start to his career. In his debut on September 25, 1959, at the age of 25, Striker tossed 60 innings of solid baseball, allowing only two earned runs for a 2.70 earned run average and the 8-2 win. He went 0 for 1, with a walk at the plate, in what would be the only game in which he would appear in 1959.

Jake was the only player from Heidelberg College to reach the major leagues. Striker was traded on December 6, 1959 with Dick Brown, Don Ferrarese and Minnie Miñoso to the White Sox for Johnny Romano, Bubba Phillips and Norm Cash. That basically sealed the fate for his fairly promising career. He only appeared in two games with the White Sox, both relief appearances. In 3+ innings of work, he posted a 4.91 ERA, striking out one and walking one. His major league career ended on April 24, 1960. Overall, he went 1 and 0 with a 3.48 ERA in 3 games in his career. He walked five, struck out six and gave up one home run (to Casey Wise) in about 10 innings of work. He wore three uniform numbers in his short two-year career. He wore 23 with the Indians, and 20 and 31 with the White Sox. At the age of 29, he gave up baseball. He said he was very grateful to be able to play major league ball, but he was disappointed at the turn of events.

In 1963 he started a 30 year career with the Timken Company in Bucyrus, Ohio. He enjoyed traveling with his family and playing golf with friends and fellow workers. Upon his retirement, he moved to Prescott, Arizona and in 2002 he moved to Dallas, Oregon. Tragically cancer took the lives of Jake's daughter, wife and Jake, who passed away March, 7, 2013. Jake's son, Scott, lives in Dallas, Oregon.

Jake was one of 50 pitchers to have one career major league win and he was featured in a book by George Rose, "One Hit Wonders".