

2018 Dale Foor Cornerstone Award Honoree

L Y L E L I N E R O D E

RESIDES: HEATH, OHIO

Lyle Linerode has been an educator at both the high school and collegiate level for more than 31 years. He spent 18 years at Gahanna Lincoln High School where he taught English and speech classes while coaching the award-winning Speech and Debate Team.

Through Linerode's coaching and leadership, his students learned how to articulate their thoughts confidently and persuasively, while being respectful of an opposing view.



"I tried to make the class as comfortable as possible for the students," said Linerode. "To see a student start the semester being afraid to speak in a basic speech course and then, have them want to continue at competitive speech and debate, is a wonderful experience."

"Perhaps Lyles most important legacy as a teacher in his many years at GLHS is the lifelong impact that he has had on his students' lives," said Laurie Jadwin, a mother to two of Linerode's former students. "He instilled in them a strong work ethic, a sense of accountability, and a self-confidence that has remained with them long after they left the halls of GLHS."

A graduate of Malone University with a Communication Arts degree, Linerode once

considered a career in business after receiving his masters from Miami University in Business Communications.

"I always thought I would go into business and be an executive.

But, I came back to the classroom

and knew that's where I wanted to be," said Linerode. "The amount of knowledge I gained while teaching is phenomenal.

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After countless Saturday morning Speech and Debate tournaments, Linerode retired from Gahanna Lincoln High School in 2014. Retirement however hasn't been a time to sit back and rest. Soon after leaving the classroom he took a part time hobby and made a full time baking business called Lona Belle's Home Baked Goods. Lona Belle's focuses on traditional, old fashioned cookies and breakfast breads using mostly his mother's recipes. His baked goods can be found at various farmer's markets during the summer or through special orders all year round.

Linerode's enthusiasm and dedication to his students continues to resonate with them long after they have left his classroom. Calling to seek his personal and professional advice as well as connect with him as a friend and mentor, many of Linerode's former students continue to stay in contact with this favorite teacher long after they have left the classroom.

"I know it's cliché to say," said Linerode. "But speech and debate is a family. It really is."