

## **BARRY TURNER HONORED WITH FIELD DEDICATION**

Dozens of teary-eyed students, colleagues and friends gathered at Foothill High School to unveil a brand new sports complex named after a former award-winning soccer coach who suffers from Lou Gehrig's disease.

Barry Turner, 48, was a teacher at Hillview High School for 19 years and the head soccer coach at Foothill High for 23 years before he was forced to step down due to the auto-immune degenerative disease.

The celebrated teacher was wheeled into "Barry Turner Field" at Hillview, which is next to six pristine tennis courts, a softball stadium, and a soccer field.

He's no longer able to speak, but appeared to be crying at the dedication.

"Barry is saying he loves everybody," said his wife, Leanne. "He loves the game of soccer. In fact, he still watches it every day."

Students said Turner did so much for a lot of people.

"It's a great feeling to know he's being recognized for all that he's done. He really deserves it. He's touched many hearts," said Bridgette Serna.

When the ceremony was over, fans stood in line to hug the former "Teacher of the Year."

### **In Memoriam: BARRY TURNER**

Barry Turner, retired high school teacher and soccer coach for the Tustin Unified School District, passed away Thursday, August 28, after a three-year battle with ALS (also known as Lou Gehrig's disease).

Turner began his career teaching physical education to students in grades 5 through 10 at Appleton School in England. He came to TUSD as a substitute teacher in 1989, & joined Hillview High School in 1992, teaching math and science for 20 years. During that time he served as Tech Prep coordinator and Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) co-leader at Hillview, and participated as a member of the District's math and science curriculum committees.

Among his many honors, Turner was named TUSD High School Teacher of the Year in 2002, as well as Hillview Teacher of the Year three times – 2012, 2002 and 1995. He was also selected by his students as Teacher of the Year in 2000 and 1999, and received the 1995 Golden Touch Award for his work with young people from the Assessment and Treatment Services Center.

In addition to teaching at Hillview, Turner served as the Foothill High School Boys Head Soccer Coach for 23 years. His soccer teams won seven league titles and made 14 appearances in CIF competition. Coach Turner was named Orange County Register Coach of the Year and 2012 CIF State Model Coach of the Year – one of six coaches from over 500 high schools – for being a positive role model to youth. For over 20 years,

he also volunteered his time coaching and training youth soccer teams in the community.

On September 17, 2012, the Barry Turner Field was dedicated in his honor. The athletic facility is located across the street from Foothill High on Foothill Blvd. and includes a soccer field, tennis courts and softball fields. A bronze plaque detailing all of his accomplishments during his 23 years coaching the Foothill Knights stands alongside the soccer field.

Barry is survived by his wife Leanne; son, Daley; and daughter, Stella.

Foothill Athletics is proud to have worked with Coach Turner. He will continue to be an inspiration to everyone at Foothill, & his legacy will endure. On behalf of the Foothill community, we offer our condolences to the Turner family.