



**Gene was born and raised in Aurora, Illinois. He graduated from East Aurora High School in 1964 and graduated from Aurora University-class of 1952. He was an outstanding Aurora Spartan Football athlete, and was inducted into Spartan Hall of Fame in 1991, having achieved numerous Conference awards, in addition to being named team MVP three consecutive years. Gene also played one year of varsity baseball at Aurora University and in 1950-1951 was selected Athlete of the year. After graduation, Gene's career was in education. Upon retirement in 1988, he moved to Florida and soon joined the staff at Lee County Parks and Recreation as an Athletic Program Manager. Gene established the collegiate Classic 19 years ago with only softball teams participating.**

### **Lee County Parks & Rec. 2010 Gene Cusic Collegiate Classic Event History**

The 20th Annual Lee County Parks & Recreation Gene Cusic Collegiate Classic is an event that offers Men's Baseball & Women's Softball College/University teams an opportunity to participate in our tournament during Spring Break in a warm climate condition. Starting February 21 thru April 3, 2010, Lee County Parks & Recreation is expecting up to 200 teams in Lee County, Florida. Our tournament attracts all levels of Division II, III, NAIA Colleges and Universities, athletes and their families throughout the United States. College teams on Spring Break come down to our area, generally for a week, to participate during the month of March. They stay at local hotels, visit local restaurants, attractions/entertainment & beaches daily. The tournament objective is to provide an opportunity for teams to compete before their season begins, promote great competition, as well as a positive environment for friends and family. Games are played at Terry Park, Lee County Sports Complex, Cape Coral's Northwest complex, and the Cape Coral Sports Complex. Last year there were 46 Softball teams and 28 baseball teams down here during the time frame. Softball teams included the likes of Dominican University, Wheaton College, and Olivet College. The 2009 baseball tournament brought in such powerhouses as Augustana College, Babson College, and Southwest Minnesota State University. All the information for the Cusic is located online at [www.leeparks.org](http://www.leeparks.org). We need more teams during the week(s) of Feb. 21- 28; Mar. 1- 7; Mar.22- April 3. The cost is \$250 for 6 games or less and \$500 for 8 games or more per game; we are limited to only 40 teams per week for softball and 20 teams per week for baseball.