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FORMER UT MARTIN COACH ANTHONY STEWART IS THE RECIPIENT OF THE 2021 GENE BARTOW AWARD

BOSTON, MA -- Former UT Martin head coach Anthony Stewart is the recipient of the 2021 Gene Bartow award.

Stewart spent four seasons as the head coach at UT Martin. His best season came in his debut campaign in 2016-17, when he tied a school record with 22 victories and advanced to the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament championship game. He led to UTM to a win in the CollegenInsider.com Postseason Tournament (CIT) and was named a finalist for the 2017 Ben Jobe National Coach of the Year Award, presented annually to the nation's top Division I minority coach.

Anthony Stewart passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, Nov. 15, 2020. He was 50 years old.

"Coach Stewart's star was ascending," said Angela Lento Vice President of CollegenInsider.com. "He had UT-

Martin poised to be among the contenders this season in the Ohio Valley Conference and his future in coaching was very bright. He was a selfless and self-made individual.”

Stewart was a private business entrepreneur for many years before getting into coaching. He also spent time as an assistant coach at Ohio University (2012-14), Southern Illinois University (2011-12), University of Wyoming (2007-11), Long Beach State University (2004-06) and Columbus State Community College (2001-04) before joining the Skyhawks.

The Gene Bartow Award is presented annually to a current or former coach for his contributions to the game. It measures a coach’s win-loss record but also the impact he’s made on his players, school and community.

It’s named in honor of a legendary coach who compiled a 647-353 record, led Memphis State to the 1973 national title game, steered UCLA to the Final Four and started the University of Alabama-Birmingham program from scratch, building it into a postseason regular.

Bartow won four Sun Belt tournament and three regular season titles during his 17 years at UAB, leading the program to a 350-193 record and seven consecutive NCAA tournament appearances.

He passed away in 2012 at age 81, following a two-year battle with stomach cancer.

