

The Senate State of Hawaii

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FORD KONNO 2002 HAWAII SWIMMING HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

The Swimming Hall of Fame was founded in 2002 by the Hawaii Swimming Legacy Project to memorialize Hawaii's rich heritage of water sports and recognize swimmers, divers, and water polo players who have made important contributions to their sports. Its mission is to promote, preserve, and perpetuate the achievements of Hawaii's swimmers, divers, and water polo athletes. In order to commemorate Hawaii athletes' achievements in water sports, volunteers have gathered, preserved, and disseminated oral histories, photographs, and memorabilia about Hawaii's aquatic sports.

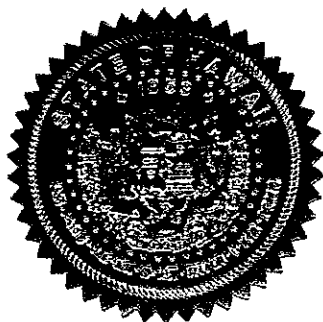
FORD KONNO is one of Hawaii's greatest swimmers. Ford was one of the inaugural inductees into the Hawaii Swimming Hall of Fame in 2002. While still in high school, he set a world record in the 440-yard freestyle. He went on to set world and national records at seven distances ranging from 200 to 1500 meters. Among his numerous accomplishments are eighteen national Amateur Athletics Union (AAU) championship titles, and the six NCAA and ten Big Ten championships he won at Ohio State. He also has been recognized as an AAU and NCAA All American swimmer.

One of his greatest accomplishments was winning three medals at the 1952 Olympics in Helsinki. Ford won a gold medal in the 1500-meter freestyle race, setting World and Olympic records. He won a second gold medal in the 4x200-meter freestyle relay, and also won a silver medal in the 400-meter freestyle event. In 1956, he competed at the Olympics in Melbourne, winning a silver medal in the 4x200-meter freestyle relay.

After graduating from Ohio State University, Ford returned to Hawaii to teach high school and coach swimming on Kauai.

In 1972, in recognition of his achievements as one of the world's greatest swimmers, Ford was inducted to the International Swimming Hall of Fame as an Honor Swimmer.

The Senate of the State of Hawaii pays tribute to FORD KONNO for his 2002 induction to the Hawaii Swimming Hall of Fame, recognizes his many achievements and contributions to the sport of swimming, and extends its warmest aloha and best wishes for continued success in all future endeavors.



Done this 7th day of December 2005
State Capitol, Honolulu, Hawaii

Sponsoring Senator

President of the Senate

Clerk of the Senate