

# **BENNY MALONE**

## **SC Alumni – High School, College & Professional Athlete**

**Inducted into the SC Hall of Fame October 15, 2010**

The Malone family moved to Eloy, Arizona in 1958 when Benny was six years old. By the time Benny reached high school he had already become a strong young athlete and during his first high school football game he rushed for 275 yards.

During his junior year at Santa Cruz Valley Union High School Benny earned his first Team All State A-South Back of the Year Award and the Dust Devils claimed a State Championship. Benny's senior year also yielded a 1<sup>st</sup> Team All State A-South Back of the Year Award and was also voted High School All American by *Scholastic Coach Magazine*. Benny was a four-year letterman in track and field, where he was able to take first place in 1970 in the high hurdles, low hurdles and shot put. He also earned a second place in the 100 yard dash. His efforts in this sport helped the Dust Devils win back to back state championships. Benny graduated from Santa Cruz in 1970.

Benny's love for football continued through college. In 1970 he accepted a football scholarship to play for the legendary Frank Kush at Arizona State University. As a sophomore at ASU Benny started his varsity career and began setting records just like his older brother, Art. His career at ASU included him becoming, in 1973, the ninth best all time 1,000 yard single season rusher. On October 27, 1973, Benny went on to score five touchdowns against Oregon State. This was something that no other ASU running back past or present had done. He rushed for 250 yards on 24 carries. This record still holds in ASU record books. For that effort, he was awarded Back of the Week by the NCAA. Benny also achieved ASU'S all time ranking of #8 as ASU'S All-Time 100 yard Games in a Career. All of his achievements at ASU earned him a place within ASU'S Hall of Fame.

After graduating from ASU in 1974 with a Bachelor's degree in Education, the Miami Dolphins drafted Benny and was their starting running back for 4-1/2 years. He played his last two NFL years for the Washington Redskins.

After his career with the NFL, Benny taught in the Tempe School District. He took time to speak at various elementary schools and educate students about obstacles and bring the light to these children that you can succeed.

Benny and his family have owned and operated Major T's for 28 years in Tempe, Arizona. He has become a successful entrepreneur, which has enabled him to spend his time around his family. Benny gives his time and support to Easter Seals and Salvation Army. He donated new clothing to victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Benny is a Deacon at his home church of Greater Paradise Church of GOD in Christ. Here he is able to mentor young men or young saints in conduct and teaching, this is truly his passion, serving the Lord. He married his childhood sweetheart, the former Laura Lee who is also from Eloy, Arizona. They currently reside in Tempe, Arizona and have seven children and nine grandchildren. Benny has done much more than participated in football during his life.