

# Distinguished Alumni Awards 2015 Durand Area Schools



## Marjorie Smith, Class of 1941



**Marjorie Smith has been selected for the Distinguished Alumni Award for her dedication to Durand and her philanthropic efforts.**

- Grew up in Durand where her father and brother owned Smith Buick and graduated from Durand High School in 1941, the year that the United States became engaged in World War II.
- Due to wartime restrictions, companies were not printing yearbooks, so she joined classmates and used the darkroom at Snyder's Drug Store to develop photographs for a yearbook to be produced on a mimeograph machine at school.
- Attended Michigan State University and earned a degree in physical education.
- Earned a Masters' Degree at Los Angeles University.
- Taught health and physical education 26 years at Citrus College in California.
- Despite a life-long love of sports, she was not exposed to competitive sports in high school because organized sports for females were unheard of in the 1940's. After living 70 years in California, she remained involved with the Durand community, supporting many local projects. She was still a Durand gal at heart and chose to establish a fund with the Durand Education Foundation for girls to achieve in athletics in Durand.
- Also helped support and fund the Veterans Park, the Durand Alumni Reunion, and the Durand Union Station.