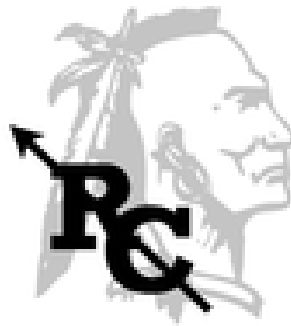


**Get to Know....**  
**JASON HELDT**  
**Principal and Head Football Coach**  
**at**  
**Red Cloud High School**



*Heldt grew up in Lisco, NE and graduated high school in 1992 from Garden County High School. He graduated from South Dakota State University in 1997 with a degree in animal science. Later, he obtained a teaching degree from Chadron State College. Heldt's wife Stacie is a Guide Rock native and they have three children: Josh, Haize, and Jada.*

**What is your favorite thing about Red Cloud?**

My current favorite thing about Red Cloud is the push to improve. Not so much to grow, but to improve on what we currently have.

**Do you have any advice for community leaders to help get high school students more involved in the Red Cloud community?**

I feel that we have great group of young adults at Red Cloud High School. I think that our students would like to get involved in our community but do not know where to start. If it does not come from the school or a church organization, it is hard for students to find opportunities to get involved.

**What are some of your favorite businesses to shop at in Red Cloud?  
Why?**

That is a tough question. I recently sent out 62 letters to business/entities in Red Cloud. So there are many options in our town. I frequent Kenny's Lumber and The Hometown Market are probably the two that I frequent the most.



**Is there anything you wish parents and Red Cloud residents knew about being a school administrator?**

As an administrator I want the best for our students, school, and community. I want kids and staff that are excited to come to school.

**If you could have a superpower what would it be and why?**

As a big fan of Superman, I would have to say the ability to fly.

**Do you have any hobbies or interests you'd like to share?**

I enjoy wood working. I had a great shop teacher, Mr. Kurch, that I gave me a good knowledge base of woodworking.

**Do you have any pets?**

The Heldt house has a cat named Molly.



**Is there anything you wish parents and Red Cloud residents knew about being coaching high school athletics?**

High School athletics in a small town can be challenging. As athletes the only thing we can control is our effort and our attitude. I would say if you



are going to be an athlete you need to give yourself the best chance for success. That means taking care of our bodies, exercising, lifting weight, doing agilities, and practicing and practicing the correct techniques. There is a difference between putting in your time and putting in effort. It is the effort to improve and the effort to get the most out of yourself as an athlete, which will result in success for both yourself and your team.

**What would your high school teachers or guidance counselor say about you if we asked?**

I hope they would use the terms effort, enthusiasm, and attitude when describing me, in a positive way. I was a good high school student, but school was not easy for me and I had to put in time and effort to learn and achieve academically.

**What are you most proud of?**

I am proud of my family. I had a strong home life growing up. We were not a big family but had a grandma, grandpa, mom, dad, and sister that were a very close supportive family unit through my school years. As I now grow into that dad roll, I want my family to have the same support and love that I had growing up.



**Do you have a mantra or mission statement you live by?**

“To give anything less, than our best is to sacrifice the gift.”  
—Steve Prefontaine

**What historical figure or celebrity would you most like to have dinner with? Why?**

I would like to have met my great grandfather Dean Heldt. He was born in the 1882 and my grandfather Bill was born in 1909. Dean homesteaded in Western Nebraska in the early 1900's. I heard stories from my grandpa, but would like to have a chance to meet Dean.

**Do you have any advice for someone looking to relocate to rural Nebraska?**

Get involved. There are many opportunities in a rural community to get involved.



### **What is your favorite song and/or recording artist?**

I use to talk to my classes about having an intro song that played every time you entered a room, like the WWF wrestler or baseball players walking to the plate. I also talked about being stranded on a desert island with an iPod with only 10 songs, “what would they be”. So I do like this question....” American Pie” – Don McLean, “The Joker”- Steve Miller, “The River” – Bruce Springsteen and “Mrs. Potter’s Lullaby” – Counting Crows.

### **Who is your favorite writer or thinker?**

I like Steinbeck, for some reason *The Pearl* and *Cannery Row* always stick with me.

### **What is your dream vacation?**

Having grown up in the middle of the country the ocean and beaches always amaze me, I would also like to visit Iceland, and anywhere I can see a waterfall is a bonus.



### **What's your favorite place to visit in Nebraska?**

Nebraska has some great places. Those not from the state think the trip across on I-80 is what the entire state looks like. As a Western Nebraska kid I am always drawn to the Sand Hills and North Platte Valley. However, the Northeast corner, around Niobrara, highway 12 and the Missouri River is a neat area as well.

### **Who has been the biggest influence in your life? Explain why.**

My Dad. Don Heldt is genuinely one of the best people I know. I hold him in the highest place and have always felt that if I can be like my dad, I will be doing something right.

### **Is there anything else you'd like to share?**

GO WARRIORS!



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