

# THE PRIDE OF FOLLANSBEE

# LOU HOLTZ

JAN. 6, 1937 TO MARCH 4, 2026

Louis Leo "Lou" Holtz has long been considered one of the most successful and respected figures in college football history, known for his down-home values, faith and motivational style both on and off the field.

Holtz was born in Follansbee, West Virginia, and raised in East Liverpool, Ohio, eventually attending Kent State University, where he received a bachelor's degree in history.

He began his coaching career as a graduate assistant in 1960 at Iowa. From there, he made stops as an assistant at William & Mary (1961–1963), Connecticut (1964–1965), South Carolina (1966–1967) and The Ohio State University (1968). The 1968 Buckeyes won a national championship with Holtz as an assistant.

As a head coach, Holtz made stops at several universities, including Arkansas, Minnesota and South Carolina. He is most known, though, for his tenure at the University of Notre Dame, where he defeated his home-state team – West Virginia – 34-21 in the 1988 Fiesta Bowl to claim the College Football National Championship for the undefeated Fighting Irish.

Under his leadership, Notre Dame was known for its disciplined play, mental toughness and preparedness, with Holtz emphasizing character, accountability and a team-first attitude, often saying that success in life mattered more than success on the field.

After retiring from coaching, Holtz became a college football analyst and motivational speaker, living in Orlando, Florida.

## COACHING BY THE NUMBERS

### COLLEGE HEAD COACHING CAREER

1969.....	William & Mary.....	3-7
1970.....	William & Mary.....	5-7
1971.....	William & Mary.....	5-6
		<b>13-20</b>
1972.....	North Carolina State.....	8-3-1
1973.....	North Carolina State.....	9-3
1974.....	North Carolina State.....	9-2-1
1975.....	North Carolina State.....	7-4-1
		<b>33-12-3</b>
1977.....	Arkansas.....	11-1
1978.....	Arkansas.....	9-2-1
1979.....	Arkansas.....	10-2
1980.....	Arkansas.....	7-5
1981.....	Arkansas.....	8-4
1982.....	Arkansas.....	9-2-1
1983.....	Arkansas.....	6-5
		<b>60-21-2</b>
1984.....	Minnesota.....	4-7
1985.....	Minnesota.....	6-5
		<b>10-12</b>
1986.....	Notre Dame.....	5-6
1987.....	Notre Dame.....	8-4

1988.....	Notre Dame.....	12-0
1989.....	Notre Dame.....	12-1
1990.....	Notre Dame.....	9-3
1991.....	Notre Dame.....	10-3
1992.....	Notre Dame.....	10-1-1
1993.....	Notre Dame.....	11-1
1994.....	Notre Dame.....	6-5-3
1995.....	Notre Dame.....	9-3
1996.....	Notre Dame.....	8-3

**100-30-2**

1999.....	South Carolina.....	0-11
2000.....	South Carolina.....	8-4
2001.....	South Carolina.....	9-3
2002.....	South Carolina.....	5-7
2003.....	South Carolina.....	5-7
2004.....	South Carolina.....	6-5

**33-37**

### OVERALL BOWL GAMES

**249-132-7  
12-8-2**

### PROFESSIONAL HEAD COACHING CAREER

1976.....	New York Jets.....	3-10
-----------	--------------------	------

**3-10**

## AWARDS

- Paul "Bear" Bryant Award (1977, 1988)
- Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year (1977, 1988)
- Sporting News College Football COY (1977, 1988)
- Walter Camp Coach of the Year Award (1977)
- Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame (1983)
- Woody Hayes Trophy (1977, 1988)
- ACC Coach of the Year (1972)
- SWC Coach of the Year (1979)
- Upper Ohio Valley Hall of Fame (1998)
- SEC Coach of the Year (2000)
- College Football Hall of Fame (2008)
- Cotton Bowl Hall of Fame (2012)
- Presidential Medal of Freedom (2020)

