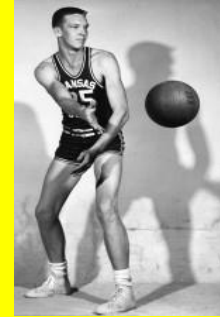


<http://www.basketball-reference.com/players/h/hitchle01.html>



**Lew Hitch Ellis Railroader Boys Basketball Coach 1957-1961**



[http://www.kstatesports.com/news/sports\\_m-baskbl\\_spec-rel\\_021012aac.html](http://www.kstatesports.com/news/sports_m-baskbl_spec-rel_021012aac.html)

**Lewis “Lew” Rufus Hitch, 82, of Westmoreland, Kansas passed away Wednesday, February 8, 2012, at Wamego City Hospital, in Wamego, Kansas.**

**Lew was born in Griggsville, Illinois on July 16, 1929, the son of Rufus and Maurine (Jennings) Hitch. He attended schools in Griggsville. After graduating high school he attended Culver-Stockton Junior College on a basketball scholarship before attending Kansas State University to play basketball. During Lew’s senior season at Kansas State, the basketball team finished runner-up in the NCAA finals in 1951 to Kentucky. After college Lew was selected 19th overall in the 1951 NBA Draft, by the Minneapolis Lakers. Lew went on to average 5.0 points per game in his 7 year career, highlighted by 2 back-to-back world championships with the Lakers.**

**On August 29, 1953, Lew married Danna Jean Foltz in Manhattan, Kansas. After playing basketball Lew went into coaching and teaching which led Lew and Danna to Ellis, KS and Wichita, KS for 12 years before Lew moved his family to Westmoreland, Kansas in 1971, where he became the Superintendent of USD #323 until his retirement in 1990. Lew was a member of the NBA Retired Players Association.**