

# Don Meyer Quotes

*Basketball, Coaching, Nba, Player, Team, Games, Running, Winning, Practice,  
Want, Sports, Play, Motivational, Attitude, Successful, Pigs, People, Trying,  
Giving, Hard*

Successful programs consist of people working hard, working together, while never worrying about who gets the credit.

~Don Meyer

Complacency is the forerunner of mediocrity. You can never work too hard on attitudes, effort and technique.

~Don Meyer

You build your program from the ideas of great coaches.

~Don Meyer

Recognize and reward players who put the team first, not just the gifted ones.

~Don Meyer

When you watch the game, be a student of the game.

~Don Meyer

Positioning, anticipation and technique create quickness. Therefore, you can always get quicker

~Don Meyer

If you can do something and not blow your own horn, it sure sounds a lot better.

~Don Meyer

Discover your gift, develop your gift and then give it away every day.

~Don Meyer

Tough minded enough to do the necessary things--this is the epitome of what a team is.

~Don Meyer

It is foolish to expect a young man to follow your advice and to ignore

your example.

~Don Meyer

Coach like the coach you want to be ten years from now.

~Don Meyer

Players who are late say that their time is more important than the team.

~Don Meyer

Your program must have an overriding purpose which is clearly visible and which teaches lessons beyond winning.

~Don Meyer

Be what ya is, 'cause if ya be what you ain't, ya ain't what ya is.

~Don Meyer

Shout praise and whisper criticism.

~Don Meyer

Winning a postseason game is like winning five regular season games. There is just no feeling like it. Everything is magnified. Every free throw, turnover, shot and play.

~Don Meyer

If you are a good team, your offense is born on the defensive end.

~Don Meyer

Defense involves three things: courage, energy, intelligence.

~Don Meyer

It doesn't cost nothing to be nice to people

~Don Meyer

You aren't going to win championships unless you make layups and free throws.

~Don Meyer

You can pick captains, but you can't pick leaders. Whoever controls the locker room controls the team

~Don Meyer

There is nothing more important than rebounding... don't just give it lip service.

~Don Meyer

To be a team, you must be a family.

~Don Meyer

To those who much has been given, much is expected.

~Don Meyer

Discipline and demand without being demeaning.

~Don Meyer

Plays are not as important as players, and players are not as important as teammates

~Don Meyer

If it comes down to you or the program that decision was made long ago.

~Don Meyer

Have character, don't be one.

~Don Meyer

Simplify the game as much as possible. When you add, you must subtract.

~Don Meyer

Good shooters take the shots; best shooters take most of the shots.

~Don Meyer

If a farmer and his family can get up at 5:30 every morning to milk cows, surely we can get up at that time to practice basketball.

~Don Meyer

You never realize the value of coaching until your children play for a coach

~Don Meyer

Proper prior planning prevents pitiful poor performance.

~Don Meyer

It is not what you teach, but what you emphasize.

~Don Meyer

The worst day coaching is better than the best day doing anything else

~Don Meyer

Shared suffering: one guy messes up and everyone runs. One guy does well and everyone benefits.

~Don Meyer

When the legs go, the heart and the head follow quickly behind.

~Don Meyer

Players must do what you want them to do in pressure situations.

~Don Meyer

Administrators are like pigs; don't wrestle with a pig because you both get dirty and the pig likes it.

~Don Meyer

The team is an extension of the coach.

~Don Meyer

When you get to be my age, you don't buy green bananas because you may not be around to eat them.

~Don Meyer

To win it all, winners have to be obsessive about the fundamentals and doing the little things right.

~Don Meyer

There's only one thing we can control, and that is how hard we play.

~Don Meyer

I have learned that peace is not the absence of trial, trouble, or torment but the presence of calm in the midst of them

~Don Meyer

Quickness more than anything else should determine your amount of pressure on the ball.

~Don Meyer

We can always do it better.

~Don Meyer

Play off your great player... great teams have a go-to player and they play off of him.

~Don Meyer

Only run special plays for special players; find plays that fit your players.

~Don Meyer

You have to clean out the pig barn every week because you know your pigs are in there doing their jobs every day.

~Don Meyer

We had 10 turnovers tonight. Each one gets worse as you go. It is like prior arrests: the 10th one may not have been that bad, but when you have had nine prior ones, it looks pretty bad.

~Don Meyer

It doesn't matter where you coach, it matters why you coach.

~Don Meyer

Make the practices like games and the games like practices.

~Don Meyer

A coach who is not teaching leads to the worst thing in a program -- players not learning.

~Don Meyer

Parents would rather have their son get all-state than his team win the state championship.

~Don Meyer

As a coach, you're just trying to figure out how to keep a team on edge. You've got to find that edge.

~Don Meyer

In practice, don't just run basketball drills, teach the players how to play basketball.

~Don Meyer

Every day you teach attitude.

~Don Meyer

The ability to rebound is in inverse proportion to the distance your house is from the nearest railroad tracks.

~Don Meyer

Anytime you get an award as a coach, you've got to be the ultimate fool to think it wasn't your assistant coaches and all the players responsible for the award.

~Don Meyer

What you accept in victory, you must accept in defeat.

~Don Meyer

If you want to thank me, go do something for somebody else

~Don Meyer

Habits are critical for players. They cannot think and play well at the same time.

~Don Meyer

Don't be in a hurry to change during the season.

~Don Meyer

We painted a beautiful picture, but we just didn't finish it. Finishing is the difference between a beautiful picture and a masterpiece.

~Don Meyer

Sometimes the best recruits are the ones you don't get.

~Don Meyer

If you have to 'try hard' to 'try hard, you are already beaten.

~Don Meyer

I tell everyone that I have 25,000 assistant coaches. If I want to know something, I just go to the grocery store.'



~Don Meyer

The only thing success should do is make you more humble.

~Don Meyer

In the end, what your own troops do is more important than who they are marching against.

~Don Meyer

There is a lot of difference at McDonald's between the guy in the back making the fries and the manager up front who is running the place.

~Don Meyer

Coaching is the vehical we use to reach/ help people.

~Don Meyer

Every coach should be recording games to watch...use your VCR.

~Don Meyer

Go from good to great because good is the enemy of great.

~Don Meyer

We have 2,500 students and an 8,000-seat basketball arena. You do the math on how important basketball is in Aberdeen.

~Don Meyer

Nobody travels better than Northern State fans and nobody knows the game better than Northern State fans. If I'd die and went to heaven and I was coaching, it would be at Wachs Arena.

~Don Meyer

Ten minutes after you lose that last game, you start working on next season.

~Don Meyer

Put your two best players away from the ball and bring it back to them.

~Don Meyer

We sure didn't play great, but we played hard. And I can live with that.

~Don Meyer

You have to learn to play with what you've got.

~Don Meyer

Study people who can teach you how to deal with people.

~Don Meyer

The key to success is to do the next right thing right.

~Don Meyer

Shared suffering makes a team a team.

~Don Meyer

Let your players know that you love them.

~Don Meyer

Successful basketball coaches are those that subscribe to a system that is based on sound fundamental teachings.

~Don Meyer

You have to learn things in every game because you are not going to be able to practice two-and-a-half to three hours (during the season), so the games have to be the ultimate learning experience.

~Don Meyer

We have to get a lot tougher. If you get involved in a street fight, you can't lay down in the street and act like you're dead because they will kill you for sure. You might as well get up and fight.

~Don Meyer

If I cover my head with my hands, it means deny the ball to the opponent's ball handler.

~Don Meyer

Time doesn't fly when you are not happy.

~Don Meyer

Can your player make a curl cut and score in the lane? If so, he is the cutter.

~Don Meyer

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