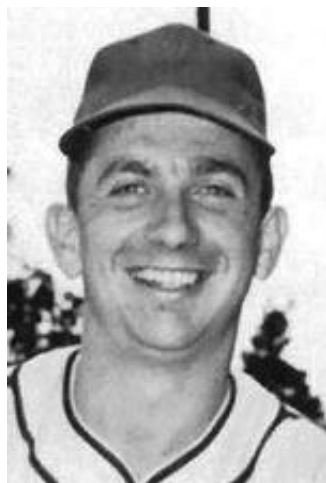


IN MEMORY OF
**ELMER L.
 BELL, JR.**

Obituary for Elmer Bell, Jr.



Elmer L. Bell, Jr.

Elmer passed away peacefully at home April 15, 2015, at age 81. He is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Janet (Duckmanton) Bell. He was born in Joliet and was a lifelong area resident.

After high school, Elmer was drafted by the Philadelphia Phillies to play professional baseball. He honorably served his country in the US Army stationed in Germany during the Korean War. He earned a bachelor's degree from Arizona State University and a Master's Degree from Northern Illinois University. As the first Athletic Director of the College of St. Francis, Elmer designed and built their first baseball diamond, currently the JCA Varsity field. His lifelong love of baseball and his passion for coaching and teaching, inspired players to excel in sports and throughout their lives. Teams Elmer coached include: Troy, Laraway, Joliet East, Arizona State University, College of St. Francis, June's Camp and various summer teams. Elmer was truly a generous and loving person, and is survived by five children, Scott (Deanne), Gerry (Don), Cris (Jeannie), Bill (Anne) Bell and Judie (Mike) Cottrell; six grandchildren, Marissa, Tony, Lindy, Brionne, Alexa and Zak Bell; and great-grandson, Jesse Bell. Elmer is preceded in death by brother, Robert Bell; and parents, Elmer, Sr. and Angela (Kezerle) Bell. Per Elmer's request, cremation rites have been accorded and arranged by Fred C. Dames Funeral Home. A private service was held for immediate family. Rest in peace Dad. We love you. For more information: (815) 741-5500

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