

Bill Kearns, longtime major league scout, dies at 94

By **Peter Abraham** | GLOBE STAFF JANUARY 02, 2015

Bill Kearns, a longtime major league scout and a member of the Massachusetts Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame, died on Thursday. He was 94.

A Milton resident, Kearns was involved in professional baseball from 1948 until his death.

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Kearns attended Watertown High, served in the Coast Guard and Navy on combat tours during World War II, and graduated from Tufts University. A talented shortstop, he played four seasons in the minor leagues with the Brooklyn Dodgers before he moved onto a career in scouting with the Dodgers, White Sox, Royals, and Mariners.

The late Lou Gorman hired Kearns as a scout for Kansas City in 1976. He later worked as the New England area scout for Seattle and was a regular at high school, college, and summer league games in the region.

Kearns was instrumental in Seattle selecting University of Maine righthander Bill Swift in the first round of the 1984 draft.

In 2007, Kearns was recognized for his expertise with an award from the Professional Baseball Scouts Foundation.

Kearns also coached high school basketball at Somerset and Weymouth High Schools.

Mr. Kearns is survived by his two children, Carol Kearns Andrews of Milton and Michael J. Kearns of Somerville, and a granddaughter, Isabel Andrews of Milton.

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