

OBITUARIES

Alfred Litwa, athletic director of former St. Joseph's High

By WAYNE DAWKINS Of the Courier-Post

CAMDEN - Alfred Litwa, athletic director of the former St. Joseph's High School here, died yesterday at West Jersey Health System in Camden. He was 63.

Mr. Litwa was coach and later athletic director at St. Joseph's from the mid-1950s until 1979. He then became VI High School in Haddon Township and later retired.

A three-sport athlete at Camden High School, Mr. Litwa starred as a home run hitter and outfielder in baseball and as quarterback and kicker in football. He also played guard on the basketball team.

He probably is best remembered for his role in the 1941 state championship football game. His 50-yard touchdown return of a punt helped Camden score a 9-6 victory over New Brunswick High School.

"He was a competitor," said Albert Vogt, an administrator at Woodrow Wilson High School who kicked the field goal that won that championship

"He'd want to play better than you," whether in a team sport or a friendly game of cards, said Vogt.

"He'd take you right to the line in pinochle. He was diligent. As a coach he worked very hard, (although) he

didn't have half the material (physically talented students) of other schools."

As a freshman at Fordham University, he made the varsity teams in football and baseball.

College was interrupted by a stint with the Army Engineers in the Pacific during World War II. When he returned he enrolled at Villanova University and played varsity baseball, then a physical education teacher at Paul signed with the Brooklyn Dodgers. He played minor league baseball several years before calling it quits at the age of 26 because of a leg injury.

Mr. Litwa grew up in the Whitman Park section of the city, where his parents settled after arriving from their native Poland. He continued to reside in the city.

He is survived by his wife, Alfreda; daughters Lorraine Briglia of Maryland and Robin of Camden; a sister, Florence Zawisza of Florida; and a granddaughter, Lauren.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 9 a.m. Wednesday at St. Joseph Church, 10th and Mechanic streets, Camden.

Friends may call after 8 a.m. at Schaffhauser-Predpelski Funeral Home, 983 Haddon Ave., Collingswood. Burial will be in St. Joseph Cemetery in Chews Landing, Gloucester Township.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Joseph Church.

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