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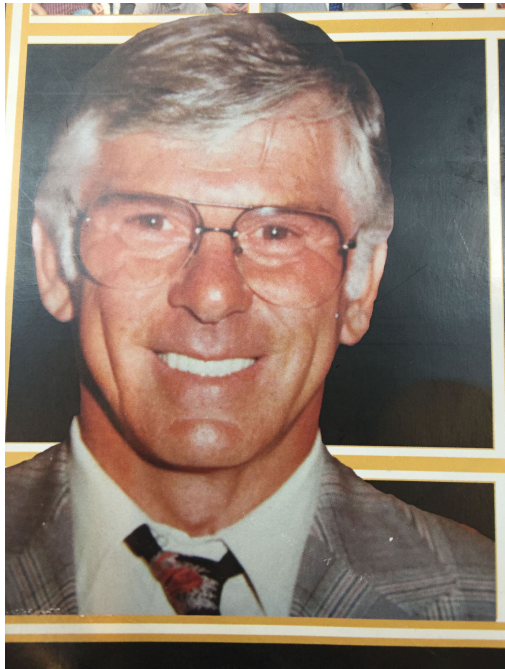
Obituaries

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Hodous, Albert

Jan 24, 2017



Albert "Lefty" Hodous died Jan 23, 2017. The Beachwood resident was 87.

Lefty Hodous was everything sports. In high school at John Adams, he was arguably the best-known athletes in Cleveland, often making the covers of The Plain Dealer and the Cleveland Press sports pages. He played basketball and football and in his senior year and made all-state in basketball. He received numerous scholarship offers from all over the country in all three major sports and accepted a football scholarship to The Ohio State University as a quarterback. After only one year at OSU, he transferred to Western Reserve and received a full scholarship to play basketball there. After college, he was drafted by the Pittsburgh Pirates and played first base for their minor league team in Batavia, N.Y. By then, he was married to his high school sweetheart, Marilyn, and had a daughter, Rona. With his wife and daughter waiting for him in Cleveland, he left professional baseball behind and joined his brother, Carl, in the family heating and air conditioning business in Cleveland. From then, his family grew to include two sons, Cary and David. He remained very active in sports, playing Jewish Recreation Council basketball and softball, and is in its the Hall of Fame. In 1966, he was the racquetball champion of the city of Cleveland. In the late 1960s, he learned tennis and amazingly won the first tournament he ever entered. In 1972, with partner Ed Katowski, he built and ran Mill Creek Racquet Club. For most of that decade,

they had 17 indoor tennis courts booked from 6 a.m. to midnight. After selling the business to his partner, he remained very active in sports, playing golf every chance he got. He eventually married his new love, Maizie, whom he remained with throughout the remaining years of his life. Her amazing love and care throughout many years of illnesses helped him enjoy many more years than anyone thought possible.

Albert is survived by his wife, Marilyn “Maizie”; children, Cary Hodous of Beachwood, Rona Kleiman of Toronto and David Hodous of Cleveland Heights; grandchildren Jeremy, Lauren, Jonathan, Benjamin, Daniel, Jessica, Jennifer, Samuel, Lindsay, Jessica and Danielle; and brother Carl Hodous. He was predeceased by his parents, Nathan and Rose, and sisters, Bessie, Lillian and Celia.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. Jan. 25, 2017, at Berkowitz-Kumin-Bookatz Memorial Chapel. Interment will be at Mount Olive Cemetery.

The family will receive friends at the home of David and Pat Hodous, 2650 Shaker Road, in Cleveland Heights, after burial until 8 p.m. only.

Contributions in Lefty’s memory are suggested to your own favorite charities.

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