

In Memorium
ROBERT W. SIEKMANN
1921-2004

Our beloved Bob Siekmann was a stalwart in the Cheviot-Westwood Kiwanis Club and at the Davis Avenue gate at the Harvest Home Fair. He had been a talented athlete in his younger days, and a respected coach and school administrator in his mature years. Bob has been in ill health for the past three months, and he died peacefully at Hillebrand Nursing Home on Friday evening, November 12.

Bob grew up on the east side of town, attending Oakley Elementary School and then Withrow High School where he excelled in football, basketball and baseball. He was captain of the tiger basketball team, and a member of the state finalist baseball team in his senior year. Bob played basketball for Oklahoma A & M during the 1939-1940 season. In 1942 he entered the U.S. Army Air Corp., serving on Christmas Island in the Pacific for a year before being transferred to Hawaii as a First Sergeant, leaving the service from the Air Transport Command in Nashville, Tennessee in 1945.

Bob was a two-sport man at U.C., playing on the Coach Ray Nolting Bearcat Football Team that beat Virginia Tech in the 1946 El Paso, Texas, Sun Bowl. He was also an outstanding member of Coach John Wiethe's U.C. basketball team. He has enjoyed being a member of the Sigma Sigma Honorary Fraternity for U.C. athletes right up to the present day. Bob and his son, Bob, are both members of the LaRosa High School Hall of Fame, and Bob, Sr. has just been elected to the WHHS Hall of Honor.

Bob's first physical education assignment was at Western Hills High School in 1950 as assistant coach in football, basketball and track. The very next year, he became head basketball coach for the victorious Stephenson-York-Wheeler-Brennan-Crosthwaite-Rembold era of championship teams. Bob became West High's second Athletic Director, 1955-1959, after the Arch McCartney era, then finished his Cincinnati Public School career as an administrator, including Assistant Principal at West High, 1962-1966, and Principal of Dater Junior High, 1967-1977 when he retired. He joined our Kiwanis Club when he became Principal of Dater, and he has been a loyal member of the Board of Directors, committees and the club for 38 years.

Bob met his bride of 59 years, Jeannie, when both were students at Withrow. Jeanne was an Honor Girl at Withrow, and a graduate of the U.C. Business College. They have two children, Bob, Jr., and Nancy, both Ohio State Graduates. Bob, Jr. is in the insurance business in Columbus, and Nancy taught gifted children in Grove City, Ohio. The Siekmanns have five grandchildren.

All of the members of Cheviot-Westwood Kiwanis extend our sympathy to Jeanne and her family, and our thanks for sharing Bob with us over the past four decades, and our appreciation to Bob for sharing his life and talents with the young people of our community's junior and senior high schools for 27 of his productive years.