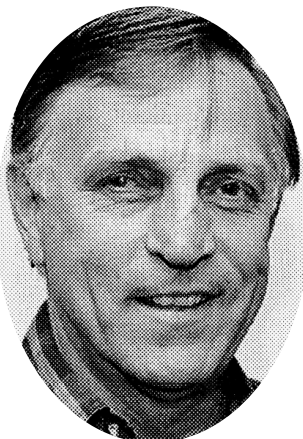


## *Bob Colbert*

**B**ob Colbert was an outstanding softball, basketball, and touch football player in Norwalk for many years, despite the loss of vision in his right eye early in his youth.

Bob played one year of varsity basketball and two years of varsity baseball at Center Junior High School, where he proved adept at both. He was unable to play in high school by a ruling of the school physician, however, because of the loss of his vision. As a result, he was forced to limit his athletic exposure to the recreation leagues where he played basketball with the Center Avenue club, which won the Rec B League title in 1952–53 and 1953–54.

With Wee Tavern, he and teammates Gene Ready, Jerry Driscoll, Dave Spears, Junior Beiling, and Tom Kelly won city titles and the Danbury War Memorial Tournament.



Joining the New Canaan Townies, he teamed with Mark and Brian Kelly to play in the Stamford Jewish Center Tournament where he made all–tourney. He teamed up again with Dave and Reggie Spears on the Sports Club basketball team to win five city titles. The team also won the Danbury War Memorial Tourney.

Moving to Freddie’s Bears, he continued to win two more city titles in the early ’60s. Later, he performed with the title–winning Hulford Electric in New Milford.

He played fast pitch softball with Ferris Hill and the Norwalk Eagles, where he was on two state title teams and was an All State selection. He hit five homers in five games in the Stamford tournament with the Eagles. He switched to slow pitch in the mid-1960s with Ferris Hill, Chatham Oaks, and Sonny’s of Westport. Bob went to five state ASA tourneys and four national tourneys and was involved in numerous championships.

Bob joined the Rowayton Bears in the Inter-City Touch Football League in 1963 and from that point on the Bears won six straight ITFL titles before losing in the finals in the seventh year. He was league high scorer twice and one of the most dependable defensive backs. He was given the ITFL All–Timer award in 1988.

As a resident of New Milford later, Bob was active with the New Milford Recreation Commission and vice president of the Babe Ruth League.

He resides at 110 North Taylor Avenue and remains actively employed as a construction superintendent.