

Al Palumbo



Al Palumbo is one of the greatest athletes to ever play for Norwalk High School. He starred in football, baseball, and track in each of his three years.

Al was born in Norwalk in 1927, grew up in East Norwalk, and played on youth teams sponsored by the Strawberry Hill AC. At NHS he started as a running back as a three-year varsity football player, and was selected second team all-state for two years and first team all-conference for three years. Al was known for reversing the field and turning almost sure losses into long gains. He holds the record for having touchdowns called back because someone was holding or clipping.

Al also played three years of varsity NHS baseball, and participated in the Senior City League for Strawberry Hill AC, Highlands AC, and Aces AC. In 1948, he captured the batting crown with a .459 average, maintaining a

lifetime average of .324.

During his three years on the NHS track team, Al competed in the 100, the 220, the broad jump, and anchored the relay team.

In 1945-'46, Al was selected as the outstanding NHS athlete. Several years ago, *The Hour* placed him on the all-time great football first team.

In his later years, Al coached Small Fry League, the Little League, Junior Babe Ruth, and American Legion baseball. He also coached the Strawberry Hill AC football and baseball champions. He was one of the original organizers of the Norwalk Mariners Fast Pitch Softball team and is presently their vice president/treasurer.

Al was a football official (CIAC) for 16 years and is now an honorary life member.

Al was a Norwalk firefighter until his retirement and had reached the rank of captain. He lives with his wife, Carolyn, on Chelene Road and has a son Albert Jr., and a daughter, Joan Blair.