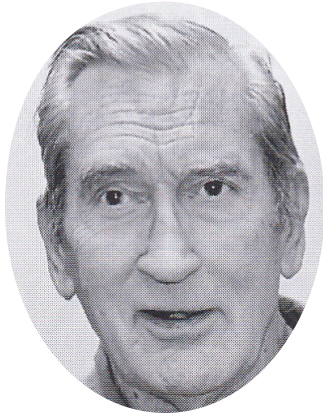


## George Moseley



**G**eorge “Bud” Moseley isn’t quite sure how or why he got his nickname, only that he’s had it for as long as he can remember.

“I’ve had it since I was a little kid and they’ve been calling me ‘Bud’ my whole life,” Moseley recalled recently. “Everybody had a nickname back then.”

Exactly how he got it doesn’t really matter. At 6-foot-1, 230 pounds, and with the talent to go with his size, everyone knew who “Bud” Moseley was. At least anyone who played local football or hockey back in the forties.

Moseley certainly earned himself a reputation as a tough and solidly built athlete on the gridiron and on the ice. Born in Rowayton, Moseley was a product of Rowayton Elementary School, Ben Franklin Jr. High, and Norwalk High School.

He didn’t play any sports while in high school, but turned out to be quite an athlete later in life. He was a key player on the Spring Hill Tigers football team in 1939, ’40, and ’41, playing quarterback and defensive back and helping the Tigers win the city championship. Moseley played for coaches Ralph Venezia and Jim Capato while his teammates included Johnny and Steve Lawrence, Benny Novakowski, Billy Fitzgerald, and Frank Lapollis.

Moseley served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1942–’45, and, following the war, several members of those great Spring Hill teams formed another local football team, the Norwalk Tigers, and again Moseley was a key player for them during the 1946 and ’47 seasons.

Football wasn’t the only sport Moseley excelled in. He was also a force to be reckoned with on the local ponds during the winter months those same five years as a rugged defenseman on the Rowayton Hose hockey team from 1939–’41 and 1946–’47. Some of his teammates included Babe and Ed Raymond, Ubbycut Lawrence, Happy Ladrigan, Hal Lindeblad, and Joe Morrison.

And while football and hockey were his two main sports, Moseley also played a little softball as a first baseman for various local teams in Rowayton. In fact, Moseley still tries to catch a few local softball games in town, especially whenever the Sandbar Restaurant team plays. Moseley bartends at the Sandbar every day during lunch hours.

That’s not the only local sports he follows. Now a retired painter, Moseley spends most of his free time in the summer watching his two grandsons, Thomas and Justin Floody, ages 11 and 14, play baseball in the Cranbury League.

“Both of them are very natural athletes like I was once in my day, and a pure joy to watch,” Moseley, who has four grandchildren, said proudly.

And making tonight’s award from the Norwalk Old Timers even more special for George “Bud” Moseley is he receives it the day after his 79<sup>th</sup> birthday.