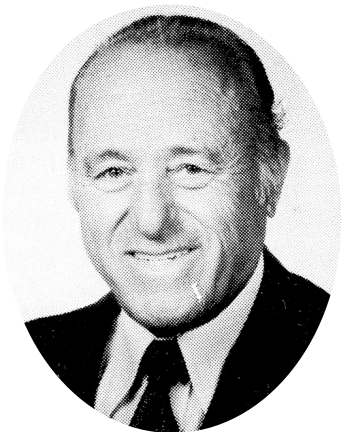


Mike Marucci



Michael “Mike” Marucci, a tough football player, was better known for his softball prowess.

Marucci, with his brothers Rocky and Jim, made softball history in this area, but he played through the 1940s as a rugged end, tackle, and guard. He played both ways, and it was not uncommon for Marucci to go a full 60 minutes.

He started his career in 1941 with the Thunderbolt AC and then played end and tackle for the 5th Army football team in Italy, while serving with the 91st Infantry Division in Europe and Africa.

Marucci returned home to play football with the Lone Stars, Top Hatters, and St. Vincent ACC in games against some of the top local teams of the period, including the

Spring Hill Tigers, Laurels, Pastimes, Westport Advertisers, and Derby AC.

He moved into fast pitch softball in 1947 and played 10 years with Strawberry Hill, Sherry, Sportsmen of Darien, Top Hats, German Club, Laurels, and Terrace Restaurant. His greatest exploits came with the Norwalk Eagles who played in the Atlantic Seaboard League against teams like the Raybestos Cardinals, Providence, Washington, DC, and Huntington. He played against this brother Rocky in Poughkeepsie on a number of occasions.

Marucci spent many seasons coaching football and softball, including a period as coach of the Rockets in the Norwalk Pop Warner League. He coached CYO and Little League as well.

In recent years, he has excelled in golf where he boasts two holes in one at Oak Hills, one in 1970 and the second in 1974. He has also worked as a musician in the Verde Band, led by his father Sam.

He is married to the former Fannie Testa, and they have two children and one grandson. Marucci is a building supervisor and resides at 3 Byselle Road, Norwalk.