

Elsie Testa Imri



Elsie Testa Imri was one of Norwalk's outstanding women athletes in the 1940s and '50s. She joined a select group of women softball players in 1947 to form the original Hertz All Stars softball team, and became one of the stars of the team, which was later to play in local, stage, and national circles for several years.

The team proved too strong for the Norwalk Girls Recreational Softball League, and soon became the Traendley Rosebuds. The Rosebuds played against major girls' teams in Connecticut, and later competed in national circles. With Imri as a slugging shortstop, the Rosebuds lost to the powerful Takoma Decorators traveling team from Washington, DC, but not before defeating the Raybestos Brakettes, 22-21, in national competition. Imri batted .500 in the playoffs of 1949 and .390 for the season.

She was also active in basketball, where she excelled as a forward with the Rosebuds, and has continued as an outstanding bowler.

Elsie is married to Ernie Imri, himself an Old Timers recipient. They have two children and two grandchildren.