

Lou Bredice



Lou Bredice was a mainstay of the Norwalk Aggies and one of Norwalk's pure hitters during a career which spanned a quarter of a century.

Bredice is the last of four athletic Bredices to be honored by the Old Timers, following his brothers Donald, George, and Nick into the honored group.

Lou, who played football and softball in addition to baseball, made a name for himself with the Aggies in the period from the late 1920s into the 1930s with his brothers as teammates, along with the Miller brothers, Bill, John, and Jim; the Gradia brothers, Cosmo, Dom, and Fred; and the Fagan brothers, Leo and Joe. The Aggies were a powerhouse during their period of existence, in local competition as well as in the nearby areas.

On one occasion, at the start of the Aggies' organization, the 'kids,' as they were referred to at the time, were asked to fill a commitment in Bedford Village by the Pastimes. The 'kids' beat Bedford Village and so surprised them that the Bedford team invited the Aggies to dinner.

Bredice began his career competing as a junior high student in the Field Days, which were held annually at Roton Point under the supervision of Angelo Maruca. He consistently won the baseball throw and the pole vault.

In high school, he played outfield for Coach Ferrol B. Green. In his first game against Stratford, coached by Joe Andrews' brother, on a brand new field, Bredice hit his first homer of the year. He hit his second against Fairfield at Amusement Park. His third homer was against New Canaan and he says he wondered why Coach Green wasn't very excited. Coach Green knew Bredice had missed second base.

In 1933 Bredice played right halfback on the Eastern State football team in Castine, Maine, and during his baseball career, occasionally filled in for the Pastimes.

Retiring from baseball in the early 1940s, Bredice turned to softball, playing infield for the Red Men Cockenoe Tribe and, later, catcher for The Hour team.

Bredice taught in local schools for 37 years. He retired in 1976. He is a life member of Cockenoe Tribe of Red Men after 50 years of membership and a member of Norwalk Library Board, School Building Committee, and Phoenix Engine Volunteer Fire Department.

A widower, he resides at 5 Arch Street in Norwalk.