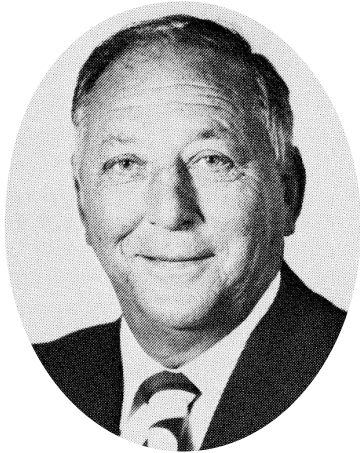


Jack Staff



Jack Staff's 92-yard punt while playing with Norwalk High in Fairfield in the fall of 1940 is believed to be a scholastic record, the football traveling 78 yards in the air with no wind blowing and rolling 14 more yards. He was developed as a great kicker by coach Ike Kern.

"Quick kicks," a lost art in recent years, were also a specialty of Jack's kicking ability. It was not unusual for Jack, from his halfback position, to boot the ball on the third down some 40 or 50 yards over the heads of the defensive backs. Another one of his features was angling his kicks into the coffin corner, most of them going out of bounds inside the five-yard line. His fellow backs were the late Tom Kindilien at quarterback, Jimmy Beres at fullback, and Bill Connery at the other halfback position. Jack was a standout with his great kicking in the 1940 games with Danbury and Stamford.

Jack was a broad jumper on the track team coached by Joe Andrews and a forward on the basketball team coached by Kern.

Following his graduation he went to Bridgton Academy in Maine to continue his athletic career, but enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1942 serving two years overseas playing basketball and baseball in the Mediterranean area.

After completing his naval duties in 1946, he returned home to play football with the Spring Hill Tigers and the Norwalk Tigers. He conducted life saving courses at the YMCA and coached the Pop Warner Ramblers football team.

He is a member of the South Norwalk Boat Club and the Spring Hill Tigers.

Jack married Janice McMahan in 1948 and they live at 9 Esquire Road. They have four children: John, Mary Jane Kolkmeier, Michael all of Norwalk, and Peter, a student at Mt. St. Mary College in Maryland. They also have five grandchildren.